



REMEMBER

Thousands attend Poppy Day events



PAGE 3

THE PITMEN

Milestone for a mine of information



PAGE 6

'Insult' to town is rejected by leaders

CIVIC leaders have slammed a report which branded Dudley as the worst town for shopping and fear it will damaged the borough's prosperity.

The town centre was ranked bottom of a list of 500 shopping destinations across the country for shopping experience, claiming it had too many betting shops, charity stores and pawnbrokers.

Shopping areas across the Black Country faced criticism in the Vitality Index by retail consultants Harper Dennis Hobbs with Halesowen also condemned on the list at 433rd.

In Dudley the report recognised the town centre was hit by the Merry Hill shopping centre and did note some improvement but the number of empty shops was still high.

Officials hit out at the report saying it fails to recognise the £200 million regeneration of the town centre that is taking place.

Dudley's deputy council leader, Councillor Pete Lowe, said the report was an 'insult'.

"Dudley has much to be proud of and I would urge people to visit us and see all that we have to offer before making judgements from misleading statistics," he said.

Switch on for festive lights

THE Halesowen Christmas lights will be officially switched on at an event shortly after it drops dark on Saturday afternoon.

Dudley Council have teamed up with Halesowen Chamber of Trade and Cornbow Shopping Centre to stage the event, including fun rides and musical entertainment in the town centre.

From 11am there will be fair rides in High Street and entertainment in Hagley Street, before the switch-on ceremony being held at 5pm.

VANDALS RAID HERITAGE SITE

COMMUNITY leaders aiming to re-open an 18th century garden to the public say they will not be deterred by vandals who damaged the site.

Members of Halesowen Abbey Trust have been given access to the Grade I listed walled garden at The Leasowes park in Halesowen as they close in on finalising their purchase of the historic site.

They want to restore the garden, which dates back to the 1790s and used to serve the Leasowes Estate, but has been unused in recent times. However, on going inside the garden, trust honorary secretary Mick Freer discovered vandals had broken into the heritage site, smashing windows at a building, ripping up electric cables and even lighting fires on the two-acre plot.

Mr Freer is heading the trust's purchase of the garden from Birmingham Metropolitan College and he said his group would not give up on its bid to reopen the garden to the public.

Security

"The vandals have created extra work but we must not be daunted," said Mr Freer. "We will succeed in spite of the negative elements that plague our society."

"Security measures will be essential and we need to concentrate on creating an income."

Mr Freer believes the vandalism happened in recent weeks. They found empty cans and takeaway packaging littering the garden and graffiti.

The walled garden was used to grow vegetables and flowers for the estate, which would have about 20 family members and servants. It contained greenhouses, a

By Alex Ross

boiler and 'a bothy' where the head gardener would sleep to protect his produce from thieves and wildlife.

It was taken over by Halesowen's borough council in 1934 before Stourbridge College were given the keys to the garden in 1974. It was used as an horticultural education centre but has not been used in recent times.

The campaign by the trust has received the support of the community. Firm A & J Mucklow Group provided a £10,000 donation, while funding has also come in from Dudley Council's community forums.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis Conservative MP James Morris has also backed the plan, describing the garden as "a fantastic asset for our community".

Mr Freer said: "The aim is to restore the garden to its former glory so that it can be enjoyed by members of the public for years to come."

Earlier this year, work took place to restore three other historic areas in the Leasowes park, which was created by poet William Shenston. Two clay dams and weirs were installed in South valley to recreate two wetland areas, while another clay dam was installed to create a serpentine pool.

Gritters get ready for the Big Freeze



True grit — Councillor Khurshid Ahmed stands in front of the mound of grit at a warehouse on Lister Road, Dudley

HUGE stores of grit are piled high ready for workers to hit the streets of Dudley when the winter weather turns nasty.

Workers are monitoring the weather and the state of the roads and are on standby to begin their work.

A dedicated 'weather watch' scheme will also be implemented so people can get all the information they need on school closures, any affected services and gritting information, as some predict a harsh winter ahead.

Borough transport boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "The winter can be a very challenging time for

us. Obviously we cannot control the weather but preparations are in hand ahead of any severe weather."

"We have a total of 4,000 tonnes of salt being delivered in addition to 2,500 tonnes we already have in stock."

Bins

"Our gritting team, based at the council's Lister Road depot, will be on hand to work around the clock to keep 470 kilometres of road clear during any severe weather."

Unlike neighbouring Sandwell borough, which has provided over 500 specialised anti-snow kits to residents,

Dudley Council says it has instead placed a focus on making grit bins readily available

"We also have a network of 1,072 grit bins across the borough which have been filled and are ready for people to use when the freezing weather comes," said Councillor Ahmed.

The borough has 10 gritters and a team of some 60 staff ready to get to work to keep Dudley on the move. A single gritting run will use anything between 35-75 tonnes of grit.

Teams are ready for action now as forecasters predict a big drop from the milder temperatures of recent weeks.

Accused has denied murder of pensioner

A MAN has denied murdering Halesowen pensioner Cynthia Beamond and a London man.

Leo Barnes, aged 32, who is alleged to have killed Mrs Beamond and Philip Silverstone on consecutive days in June, pleaded not guilty to two counts of murder during a hearing at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

The body of Mrs Beamond, aged 80, was found hidden inside her semi-detached house in Juliet Road, Howley Grange, on June 29 after she was reported missing by family members.

Attack

A post-mortem examination found she died from head injuries suffered during a violent attack.

Mr Silverstone, who had been stabbed, was found dead on June 30 at his flat in Spencer House, Belsize Park, north-west London, after concerns were raised for his welfare.

Barnes, of Runcorn Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, is formally accused of murdering Mrs Beamond on June 27, while Mr Silverstone's murder is alleged to have taken place on June 28.

A further hearing in the case will be held on November 28. Barnes was remanded in custody.

New base for post office

A POST office has officially opened in a new location with longer opening hours.

Halesowen Post Office has moved into MSNB Food Ltd in Peckingham Street.

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston opened of the new branch.

Its hours will be 8am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday and 10am to 4pm Sunday.

Postmasters Shiv and Nav Bawa said: "We'd like to thank the local community for their continued support and use of the branch."

modern
FURNITURE DIRECT

▶ LEATHER STORAGE BEDS from ▶ £99

▶ MEMORY FOAM MATTRESSES from ▶ £139

▶ BED & MATTRESS DEALS from ▶ £179

We won't be
beaten on price!

Buy online

www.modernfurnituredirect.co.uk



CONTENTS	
Peter Rhodes	4
Feature	6
Letters	7
Memory Lane	12
What's On	19
TV Guide	20 - 22
Brain Gym	23
Property	24
Motoring	26
Sport	35 & 36
CONTACT US	

CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Halesowen who can help:

Heather Large: 01384 353203
heather.large@expressandstar.co.uk
Alex Ross: 01384 353207
alex-ross@expressandstar.co.uk
Andrew Turton: 01384 353202
andrew.turton@expressandstar.co.uk
Lee Watton: 01384 353230
lee.watton@expressandstar.co.uk
Tom Mason: 01902 319550
tom.mason@expressandstar.co.uk
Katy-Rose Meaney: 01384 353201
katy.meaney@expressandstar.co.uk

What's happening in your area? We are always keen to hear about any issues affecting you. E-mail your information and pictures to: dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Sports:
Tel: 01902 319453. e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Photographic
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

Advertising
Nicky Cope
01902 319573
Email nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

Motoring:
Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution:
Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk



**51-53, Queen Street
Wolverhampton**
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm
and 2pm-5pm
www.yourchronicle.com

UKIP MEP fears threat to Black Country

THE name Greater Birmingham may be off the table but there are fears that a combined authority for Birmingham and the Black Country will erode their identities.

UKIP West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge says he will fight the creation of a combined authority. But his sound of the alarm has been rubbished by a council leader who spearheaded the negotiations.

The Labour-run councils say they need to be in a position to handle any devolved powers they might be offered in the wake of the Scottish independence referendum. Both Tories and Labour say they will give greater powers to regions and Chancellor George Osborne has resurrected the idea of an elected mayor in Birmingham, despite a referendum ruling it out two years ago.

Sedgley councillor Mr Etheridge raised his concerns in Brussels, saying: "Birmingham and the Black Country are just that, they are Birmingham and the Black Country not just some centralised entity. Each has their own character and the priority should be increased local accountability and democracy not more unnecessary centralisation. I will be holding a series of

public meetings on this overt EU-led threat to our local identities.

"I am extremely worried more power will be taken away from the people."

Sandwell Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said: "No one is talking about taking away the identity of any part of the Black Country. We won't support the name Greater Birmingham either."

Councils join forces but not as 'Greater Brum'

THE Black Country and Birmingham are to join forces in a single, combined authority to try to gain more powers and funding.

But the controversial name Greater Birmingham is being blocked in favour of the all-encompassing West Midlands Combined Authority or Birmingham and the Black Country.

Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley Councils are teaming up with Birmingham City Council after their leaders thrashed out a deal. The councils would continue independently but their leaders, or representatives, would sit on a new board that looks at issues of joint concern, such as transport and regeneration.

The move is part of a plan to get greater powers over funding without the need to go cap in hand to Whitehall for access to public money.

Council leaders said unless they joined together on matters that affected the whole West Midlands, they would be left behind. They promised the combined authority would not involve a new tier of politicians and would not cost any more money to run.

Councillor David Sparks, leader of Dudley Council, said: "We need a combined authority in the West Midlands to compete with other areas which have already gone down this route. There is evidence from around the country, such as in Greater Manchester, that where councils work in a more co-ordinated way they secure significantly greater proportions of national government investment."

Councillor Darren Cooper, leader of Sandwell Council, had imposed a deadline of Christmas to complete the deal.

He said the name Greater Birmingham was off the table. "I don't support that. Neither will the rest of the Black Country," he added.

The event will also feature real ciders and perrys, bottled foreign beers and fruit wines.

The entrance package of £15 on Thursday and Friday includes £2 refundable glass hire and beer tokens to the value of £9.50. Unused tokens can be cashed in or donated to charity. Camra members get a discount. On Saturday admission includes £13 worth of tokens and the £2 refundable glass hire. Opening hours are Thursday 5.30pm to 11pm and Friday and Saturday, 12 noon to 11pm.

Star support is right on cue



Snooker greats - John Virgo and Jimmy White at Snooks Snooker Club in Halesowen

SNOOKER legends Jimmy White and John Virgo set the green baize ablaze with their skills when they visited an Halesowen club.

The celebrities accepted an invitation to demonstrate their skill at Snooks snooker hall and local players were 'cueing up' to take them on. Around 125 fans turned up to watch local players challenge the pair.

Club owner Mike Rizzo said: "It was an absolutely fantastic evening and both players stopped to have a few drinks with people afterwards." The charity event on Saturday

is expected to raise hundreds of pounds to help fight multiple sclerosis.

The fundraiser was one of three similar events held at Snooks. Among celebrity players to have appeared at the Long Lane club are Dennis Taylor, Steve Davis, John Parrott, Tony Drago and current world champion Neil Robertson.

White became a fans' favourite in the 1980s and 90s when six-times world champion. Virgo was famous for his trick shots, comments on snooker for the BBC.

Leader of council taken ill at Commons

THE leader of Dudley Council leader has been recovering after collapsing while giving evidence during a committee hearing at the House of Commons.

Councillor David Sparks, of the Local Government Association, became unwell at a session in London on Thursday.

He had attended the session of the Political and Constitutional Reform Committee session, which was hosting discussions on devolution across the UK. The session was suspended for 45 minutes after Councillor Sparks became unwell while answering a question.

A spokesperson for the Local Government Association said: "Councillor Sparks became unwell when giving evidence. It was not serious. He recovered soon afterwards. He left to go home shortly afterwards."

The organisation posted on message through its Twitter account saying: "Our Chair was briefly unwell at today's Select Committee but is now fine and heading home, thanks to those who expressed concern."

Councillor Sparks is also a ward councillor for Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood.

Police discover cannabis farm

POLICE officers have seized around 4,000 cannabis plants from an industrial unit in Lye.

The cannabis farm was found after a report that there had been a break-in at a lock-up premises on the Old Forge Trading Estate in Dudley Road.

The discovery was made at 8.35am by officers on Friday but no-one arrests were made at the site.

Detective Sergeant Richard Narrownore said: "Some people may be under the illusion that cannabis is a harmless drug. The reality is quite different."

Bowie on screen

THE Victoria and Albert Museum's David Bowie is exhibition is coming to cinema screens with a tour of the display dedicated to the rock icon's career. It is screened on Tuesday at Dudley Showcase at 7.30pm and Cineworld Birmingham Broad Street at 8.45pm.

Able & Bromley Carpets / Beds

Family Run Est since 1978

FURNITURE/ RUGS/VINYLS & LAMINATES

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE

WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.
Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets **FREE OF CHARGE**
Shave doors. Bed assemble and disposal.
Plus free fitting on selected ranges.

Divan Beds

Single from £96
Double from £160

80/20 Wool Twists from **£8.99** sq yd
WAS £22 sq.yd.

Quality Double Memory Foam bed RRP Was £899 **Now £299**

Wiltons from only **£8.99** sq yd

PLUS... UP TO 75% OFF many instore items!
Click on-line for many great prices - www.ablecarpets.co.uk

Free quotes and Planning

Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est., Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD
OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00

● HALESOWEN
● CRADLEY
● OLDHILL
● BLACKHEATH

● HASBURY
● HAYLEY GREEN
● ROWLEY REGIS
● OLDBURY

OPEN SUNDAYS 10am-3pm

Adrian Bromley
01902 880541

Terms & conditions apply

HOMECLAD

- FASCIAS
- GUTTERING
- SOFFITS
- CLADDING
- TILE EDGING

BEST VALUE IN THE MIDLANDS

PREMIUM PRODUCTS EXPERTLY FITTED BY A LOCAL FAMILY COMPANY

SPECIAL OFFER
FREE guttering and downpipes

0800 73 13 946
CALL FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTE
16 MONUMENT AVENUE STOURBRIDGE DY9 8XS

Broken Dentures?

1 hour denture repair service

New Dentures available & made at...

The Dental Shop
Est. 1981

01384 413444

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, W. Mids. B64 6HE
www.the-dental-shop.co.uk

FOOTWORKS
Chiropody Clinic

- Full range of services with disabled friendly access
- Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Footcare
- Corns and Calluses

01384 413444

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill B64 6HE
www.footworkschiropridists.co.uk

Police are called to cup game violence

VIOLENCE broke out at a junior football match in Stourbridge

Police were called after an official was allegedly headbutted and a car driven onto the pitch during the match between under 18s sides Stourbridge Juniors and Black Country Rangers.

Birmingham County FA handed both teams a misconduct charge. Four Rangers players have been banned for violent conduct and two face misconduct charges. One Stourbridge player is serving a three match ban for violent conduct.

FA discipline boss Mike Fellows praised the referee's actions during the game at the King Edwards ground, saying "He did a really good job in taking down as much information as he could. Both teams have apologised to him."

Touble flared at the end of the Youth Challenge Cup first round tie on October 26, which Tipton-based Rangers won 2-1.

A police spokeswoman said: "A 44-year-old man informed them he had been headbutted and an individual present fully admitted the offence. The individual has written a letter of apology and that has been accepted by all parties."

Help to buy benefits 335

THE number of people in Dudley who have benefited from the help to buy scheme has reached 335.

The latest statistics published by England Housing Minister, Brandon Lewis, has revealed that across the UK 54,000 home owners have received assistance through the project that helps people to get on the property ladder with a smaller deposit than usual.

More than 1,200 people in the Black Country have bought homes using the schemes. There have been 5,547 loans in total with 337 in Wolverhampton and 304 in Sandwell.

Branch revamp

A BANK branch will temporarily close for a refurbishment this week.

The Gornal Wood branch of the Dudley Building Society will re-open at 10am on Monday. In the meantime customers can use branches in Stone Street, Dudley and High Street, Kingswinford.

£1.3m children's attraction to close down



The Quest zone loses money

THE QUEST entertainment zone at the Merry Hill shopping centre is to close in six months.

Paragon Entertainment broke the news after revealing the £1.3 million project lost £90,000 over the last 12 months.

It expects to lose another £110,000 over the six months before the children's attraction finally closes.

The firm revealed in September it was considering closure for the two-year-old centre which has failed to attract enough customers.

It opened in a blaze of glory in 2012 and features rope walks, soft play areas, a jungle-gym assault course and a Nerf combat arena. Thirty jobs were created when it first opened but now has just two full-time staff and a number of part-timers.

Bosses say they are to make use of a break clause in its lease with Merry Hill owners Intu, which it says is due to development work at the shopping centre at around the same time as it will close.

Paragon Entertainment chief ex-

ecutive Mark Pyrah said: "Sadly, the trading position at Merry Hill, due to the low footfall in the Quest location within the mall is simply not sustainable.

"The imminent major redevelopment at the centre, since it was taken over by Intu Properties in May this year, coincides with a break opportunity in our lease and, for commercial reasons, we have elected to exercise that break."

He added: "Quest at Merry Hill has been a valuable test bed for the company and our future rela-

tionship with Intu Properties. The board is hugely grateful for the past and continued efforts of the Quest staff and management team, and the loyalty from over 200,000 happy visitors who continue to enjoy great family entertainment at Quest."

The company, which built the Wallace and Gromit ride at Blackpool Pleasure Beach and the official Olympic Museum in Switzerland, has already slashed the value of the Quest centre by £420,000 to just £150,000. Equipment at the attraction is worth just £118,000.

Thousands are caught by the mobile speed cameras

MOBILE speed cameras have caught motorists 7,654 times in and around the Black Country so far this year.

It is almost 2,500 more times than in the whole of 2012 according to figures released by West Midlands Police. Mobile speed cameras have been deployed more over the past 18 months since funding cuts saw fixed roadside speed cameras turned off.

Boy, 11, is hurt as he crosses road

A YOUNG boy was badly injured when he was involved in a collision with a car in Cradley Heath.

The 11-year-old was crossing The Parade on Saturday night when he was injured.

Paramedics were called to the scene shortly after 8.20pm and treated him for hip, stomach and leg injuries before he was taken to Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Serious

He also had some facial injuries.

West Midlands Ambulance spokesman Jamie Arrowsmith said: "It quickly became apparent that the boy was seriously hurt and crews began treating him for pelvic, abdominal and leg injuries."

"He was given pain relief, had both legs put into a splint and was immobilised before being taken to Birmingham Children's Hospital on alert."

She added: "Although the boy's injuries were considered serious, they are not thought to be life threatening."

The region's police and crime commissioner David Jamieson wants to get them turned back on and the old and costly wet film cameras upgraded to digital.

One of the biggest hot spots for mobile speed camera stings was on the A4040 Sandwell Road in Handsworth, close to West Bromwich Albion's stadium. The southbound stretch alone saw 1,771 fines issued this year with 440 on the northbound stretch.

Bypass

Manor Way, the Halesowen bypass, accounted for 1,285 fines, almost 10 times as much as in 2013. Police have been catching people going at 82mph in the 40mph zone.

The A4123 Birmingham New Road saw drivers fined 213 times heading northbound towards Sandwell and Wolverhampton but just 15 southbound heading towards Birmingham.

In April 2013 the last 73 active cameras were switched off by the West Midlands Safety Partnership. The rest had previously been dummy housings acting as a deterrent. The decision was made after West Midlands Police said it could no longer afford the £1m a year running costs.

Instead, the number of the police's mobile van cameras on the region's roads doubled to four.

More attend Remembrance Sunday



We will remember them — standard bearers lower their flags for the two minute silence at Dudley on Sunday

RECORD numbers turned out to Remembrance Sunday services, paying their respects to the men and women who lost their lives in two world wars and other conflicts.

There were 4,000 attending Dudley's Coronation Gardens Ceremony, more than ever before as the nation marks the centenary of the start of the First World War.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin said he believed the events were so well attended as people are 'more aware than ever of the sacrifices that British

armed forces have continued to make for their country'. He added: "They want to come out and show their support and gratitude."

Poignant

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston said the event was especially poignant this year as the people of Dudley thought about those from the borough who lost their lives in the First World War.

"The event also gave us chance to

thank men and women who are serving at home and abroad in our Armed Forces today," she said.

In Stourbridge, a parade began at Council House in Mary Stevens Park, before marching along Queen's Drive to the cenotaph for a service of Remembrance.

A wreath-laying ceremony was held by Stourbridge Army Cadets at the crematorium as part of the centenary commemorations. It was also a record turnout in Halesowen with standing room only at the church.

Permit scheme for trailer trips to tip

HOMEOWNERS in Dudley are allowed up to 12 visits a year to the council's household waste recycling centre with a trailer or van under new rules.

The scheme applies to anyone visiting the centre in Birmingham Street with a trailer or commercial vehicle. It allows only one permit per household and per vehicle. Councillor Hilary Bills said: "This permit scheme will help us to make sure that Dudley borough residents, who pay for the site through their council tax, are the only people using it."

Safety campaign is a bright idea

A CAMPAIGN has been launched in Dudley to boost safety during the long dark nights.

The council's road safety team is working with schools, colleges and other groups on the Be Bright and Be Seen drive, part of the national THINK! road safety campaign.

Tips include wearing brightly coloured clothing, reflective gear at night and checking that bikes have working lights. For more information visit www.dudley.gov.uk/roadsafety

Enchanted display at the Glass Cone

A SPECIAL arts and crafts exhibition has been put together in the run up to the festive season.

The Enchanted exhibition at the Red House Glass Cone in Wordsley High Street will run from November 8 until January. It features interpretations of the festive season including artwork, jewellery and glass. The cone is open from 10am to 4pm and the exhibition is free.

Homes proposed at former pub site

THE site of a former pub has gone up for sale for £260,000.

The 19th century built Earl of Wessex in Summerhill Road, Coseley, was demolished.

Plans have been approved by Dudley Council for a prospective developer to transform the land into eight houses. The site is now up for sale.

Joe's ready to rock

BRITISH rock 'n' roll legend Joe Brown will be celebrating more than half a century making music, including a string of 1960s hits, when he performs at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday. Tickets are £25.

GasOn Spares Ltd

10% Off Showroom Range Masters



The Halesowen Cooker & Fire Centre

Tel: 0121 585 7799

www.gasonspares.co.uk

Gas and Electric fires now available

We have good stocks of Range & 50cm/60cm Gas & Electric cookers, As well as Gas/Electric Fires. We Also supply all Genuine Manufacture spares - Most being stocked

248 Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen B63 4QQ

Freshly cooked to order.

Pizza's | Pasta | Burgers

Any Pizza Any Size Any Time Only £9.95

Pizza Deal

Any 3 Medium 10.5" £13.95
Any 3 Large 12" £17.49
Any 3 X-Large 15" £21.49

Pizza Deal

Any 2 Medium £9.95
Any 2 Large £12.49
Any 2 Super £14.95

Buy One Pizza Get One FREE

205 Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath, Old Hill, B64 6HE

Tel: 01384 636786

www.pizzagogo-cradleyheath.co.uk

VISA | M | A | C | D | B | N | S | T | U | W | X | Y | Z

All Major Credit/Debit Cards Accepted, Charges 50p

M & H FIREPLACES

RETAILER OF THE YEAR 2003-2004

Log Burners Now In Stock

OPEN 5 DAYS. CLOSED WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY

Visit our showroom at:
Forge Lane, Cradley Heath, Halesowen, B64 5AL
(Opposite Cradley Bus and Train Station)

Telephone: 01384 345400

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



THANKS for your humorous epitaphs. The expression "never speak ill of the dead" is obviously a new one. A reader found a tombstone on which one grieving husband inscribed: "Arabella Young, who on 17th July 1781 began to hold her tongue."

ANOTHER reader tells of a headstone in Yorkshire where the first lines record the death of a husband and the next line the passing of his wife. Underneath, in a different script, someone added: "She was not a virtuous woman."

MY father, too, as a fully paid-up Yorkshireman, felt no obligation to speak well of the dead. When one of his acquaintances died the local paper approached him for a few words to include in the obituary. "You may quote me," my father replied, "as saying that Mr ***** was a complete ***** and the world is a much better place for his passing." Needless to say they didn't use it.

A POLL of Radio Times readers suggests the favourite movie line of all time is Buzz Lightyear's quote from Toy Story: "To infinity... and beyond!" The poll's top 10 inexplicably overlooked "May the Force be with you" from Star Wars and "I love the smell of napalm in the morning" from Apocalypse Now. Strange poll, strange result. But then who reads the Radio Times these days?

WE all have our personal best movie lines. One of mine is from the ceilidh scene in Local Hero when Mac asks for a 42-year-old whisky and is told it's not available. "Well," he replies, "Give me four eight-year-olds and a ten-year-old." And there's a gem of a line at the end of Jungle Book when the man-cub Mowgli, having grown up with animals, is suddenly enchanted by his first sight of a little girl. Baloo the bear growls: "Forget about those. They ain't nothing but trouble."

WHY did the teenager Will Cornick murder his teacher? Because he is a psychopath. How do we know he is a psychopath? Because he murdered his teacher. Yet again a mental-health diagnosis in a murder case seems to be nothing more than being wise after the event.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Stray horses costing taxpayers over £90k

ALMOST £100,000 has been spent tackling the number of horses illegally grazing on a borough's parks and nature reserves.

Dudley Council used some of the £95,000 over the last financial year to pay an independent bailiff company to impound the animals.

This month the council continues to warn horse owners their animals will be taken if found on parks and nature reserves.

The most recent action took place last month when two horses were seized from council-owned land off Bryce Road, Pensnett.

The council has also revealed it has impounded more than 460 horses from roads and pathways over the past three years.

RSPCA

Officers say they work with animal charity RSPCA.

Environment boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "The council has developed a range of policies and services to help deal with the problem, including the introduction of the reactive service to remove horses from the highway, in partnership with the local police and a local horse removal contractor."

"Since 2011 there have been more than 460 horses taken from the public highway using this service, reducing the risk to pedestrians, motorists and horses alike, and this service is

By Alex Ross

seen as a model system nationwide.

"The council also regularly monitors the numbers of horses illegally fly grazing on council owned land and periodically takes action through a separate retained horse bailiff with specific targeted impoundment activity."

The council also posts enforcement notices at certain locations warning anyone who may leave their horses on council-owned that the horses may be impounded. Officers say they continue to check the health of animals grazing on council-owned land and work with the RSPCA and local vets when a horse requires treatment.

Councillor Bills added: "Unfortunately the number of horses left in poor condition by irresponsible owners can increase in the winter months. We adopt a robust monitoring regime."

Special suprise for Bomber



Tony Brown with Denis Law and the FA Cup trophy

WEST Bromwich Albion sprung a surprise on club legend Tony 'Bomber' Brown when they invited his boyhood hero Denis Law to the unveiling of his statue.

The Baggies' record goalscorer described the appearance of the Manchester United striker as the 'icing on the cake' on an emotional day for the 69-year-old Albion legend.

Supporters gathered at The East Stand at The Hawthorns for the first look of the bronze statue of Brown, who scored 279 goals for the club over a 20 year period.

Chairman Jeremy Peace spoke ahead of the unveiling, describing him as a 'phenomenal player for the club'. He said the statue had been three years in the making.

But it was the club's surprise guest, 74-year-old Law, which made Brown's day. Brown grew up in Manchester and watched Law as a teenager when the Scottish striker played for Manchester City.

Brown said: "The statue is amazing, I'm so pleased with it."

Mosque building gets the go-ahead

CONTROVERSIAL plans for a new mosque in Dudley have been given the go-ahead.

At a heated meeting of Dudley Council's Development Control Committee on Monday planning chiefs voted five to three in favour of the proposals, which will see the development of a 52 ft high curved roof mosque with a 62 ft minaret in Hall Street.

The development is set to include a 120 space two-storey car park, a sports centre, an enterprise and education centre and a community centre.

Locked

Police were stationed outside the Council House from 4pm onwards as people gathered to gain access to the public gallery.

The doors were locked after the maximum allocation of 50 places was filled, leaving dozens of furious protesters outside.

During the meeting opposition was raised over the size and design of the three-storey building and lack of parking in the area.

The latest designs follow a previously failed bid, which had a taller minaret at 109ft.

The plan could be halted by a High Court hearing next year on whether the land should revert to council ownership.

Winter warmth

Living in a cold home can affect your health and wellbeing

Each winter people are dying as a result of being too cold in their homes

People of all ages are at risk

Call Dudley's winter warmth service on 01384 817086

Winter warmth support
keep warm, keep well



MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS

GET ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING, FROM TREES, BAUBLES, WRAPPING PAPER, DECORATIONS TO CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY... INCLUDING PETS! WE'RE SURE YOU WILL FIND SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN OUR HUGE 49,000 SQ FT WAREHOUSE!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT

A SEAFLO CHRISTMAS

**OPENING HOURS: MON-FRI 10 AM-4 PM SAT 8 AM-3 PM
SEAFLO, WATERFALL LANE, CRADLEY HEATH,
WEST MIDLANDS B64 6PU
0121 559 8580 - seaflouk@live.co.uk**

Four-day week is rejected by workers

A MOVE to reduce the number of days rubbish is collected across Sandwell has been scrapped after workers rejected the idea.

Union bosses have now welcomed contractor Serco's decision to stick to the current five-day bin collection after opposing the four-day week proposal.

The company, which has run bin and recycling collections on behalf of Sandwell Council since 2011, had proposed collections from Tuesday to Friday.

It said the planned shake-up, which would have seen staff doing a 37-hour week over four days, was part of a bid for 'more efficient working'.

But Jason Holtom, partnership director for Serco said: "We proposed a four day collection week to our employees for their consideration and feedback as it is a system we operate successfully elsewhere."

"The workforce preferred to continue on the existing five day cycle and therefore these arrangements will be maintained."

Matthew Law, convener for Unite at Sandwell Council, said union members voted to reject the proposal on the change to the working week at a meeting involving GMB and Unison members last week.

Mr Law is meeting company bosses today (Thursday).

Increase in four-hour A&E waiting times at hospitals

MORE than 1,000 people waited at least four hours in accident and emergency at Russells Hall Hospital – a rise of more than 200.

But the trust in charge still beat its NHS-set target for the 13 weeks up to the end of September.

There were 1,050 patients who waited more than four hours compared with 816 people for the same period last year.

The hospital kept within the target of 95 per cent of people being treated at accident and emergency within the four hours, hitting 95.9 per cent.

The year before the hospital scored 96.6 per cent.

The figures also showed the hospital had a rise in accident and emergency admissions, up 1,562 to 25,536 over the period.

Demand

Paula Clark, chief executive at Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, said the hospital had not experienced the expected reduction in admissions over the summer.

She said: "One reason was a real rise in demand."

"Demand from the public has increased but we have more elderly patients and also seen a steep rise in children under two attending."

Labour parliamentary candidate for Dudley South, Natasha Millward, will be asking health bosses for a meeting over waiting times.

By Alex Ross

She said: "Waiting times have a massive impact on people who are ill and just want to be seen as quickly and efficiently as possible. "People are really concerned."

She added: "I will be writing to the hospital to ask to meet with them to see what we can do to support them in reducing times. We understand that resources are tight."

The increase in people waiting more than four hours at accident and emergency departments at Russells Hall Hospital is mirrored at hospitals across the region.

Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust, which manages Sandwell General Hospital and City Hospital, had 3,345 patients waiting more than four hours, out of 39,216 admissions.

Police release CCTV of stabbing suspect



The suspect is seen at the fish and chip shop counter before the stabbing took place

A SUSPECTED knifeman was caught on camera at a fish and chip shop where the owner was stabbed five times in a daylight attack.

The victim, known locally as Mr Sidhu or Sid, had served a customer at Simply Fish and Chips, Quinton, when the man became violent. The thug shouted obscenities at the 51-year-old before smashing the shop window by kicking it.

When Mr Sidhu confronted him outside, he was stabbed repeatedly. His 16-year-old daughter found her father lying bleeding on the pavement and dialled 999. The attack happened on Friday at 3.20pm.

Mr Sidhu was rushed to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital in a critical condition.

Detective Sergeant Leighton Shingles urged anyone who knew the suspect to get in touch.

The suspect is described as being of mixed race, wearing a grey hooded top and a black beanie hat. He ran off along Hagley Road West towards the city centre. Call 101 or anonymously on 0800 555111.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Business bosses backing Gatwick

EXPANDING Heathrow Airport will be bad for Birmingham Airport and bad for the Black Country as a whole, business chiefs have been told.

Instead, bosses are backing a second runway at Gatwick Airport in West Sussex.

The Black Country Chamber of Commerce met strategy advisers from Gatwick and Birmingham in Willenhall to hear their arguments against a third runway at Heathrow.

It is part of an intensive lobbying campaign as an independent commission considers London's international airport options before making a final decision in June.

Birmingham Airport chief executive Paul Kehoe is backing Gatwick.

Putters made in the Black Country

A NEW range of golf putters is being manufactured in the Black Country.

Warwickshire-based business Golf Alchemy has teamed up with Victoria Drop Forgings in Wednesfield Road, Willenhall, to produce the club that are forged in both stainless steel and silicon bronze at the factory.

Hand grinding and customising is done by craftsmen at family-run Golf Alchemy's golf centre at Studley. Design director Tim Alimo said Golf Alchemy started at Mucklow Hill about six years ago and moved to Studley two years later.

RYDALE

CELEBRATING OVER 29 YEARS

ULTIMATE SECURITY GUARANTEE

Rydale take security very seriously

Guaranteed high security on all products

Full details on request

WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES, ORANGERIES, PORCHES, FASCIAS & SOFFIT BOARDS SUPPLIED & FITTED TO ALL AREAS ACROSS THE MIDLANDS

You can be sure you have made the right decision!

WINDOW, CONSERVATORY, PORCH, FASCIA & SOFFIT NEWS

How has Rydale built up an excellent reputation?

It's simple customers' satisfaction and quality. The quality of Rydale's product, the quality of all Rydale personnel and the unbeatable service given to the public is second to none. No wonder Rydale has so many satisfied customers, just look at the facts. Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, that's why we have been in business for more than 29 years. Rydale Windows security features make our windows super safe. We have a wide range of products on display at our purpose built showrooms and factories situated in Long Lane, Halesowen. Our window and conservatory advisors are available in our showrooms weekdays from 9.00am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9.00am to 4.00pm. At Rydale we feel that it is very important to see products on display before you make your final decision to purchase.

We invite you to come into our showrooms to view all our products available, the showrooms are here for you the customer. At Rydale we do not take any deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed. Rydale has been a trusted brand in our area for over 29 years. If we give you a guarantee we will always be here to honour it. Can that be said of any other company in the area? Rydale also offer a Supply Only service on all products including free delivery.

Autumn Sale NOW ON

Finance Available

At Rydale we care about the customer, spend your money wisely

Massive Discounts

on all orders placed now for December installation

Repair Service available

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060

OPEN WEEKDAYS 9 AM TO 5.30 PM, SATURDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM, SUNDAY CLOSED

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen, B62 9LS

www.rydalewindows.co.uk

IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

NAPOLEON once dismissed Britain as 'a nation of shopkeepers'. Well according to a rather new depressing survey into our towns and cities, the Black Country and its environs is now a region of bookies, pawnbrokers and kebab shops.

Now, I really would like to be angry about the study by retail analysts Harper Dennis Hobbs, which ranks Dudley the worst of Britain's 500 main shopping destinations, with Halesowen, Bilston and Rugeley faring only marginally better. However, it is surely only telling us what we already know. Indeed, judging from the public reaction to the study, the main bone of contention among people in this area is how Wolverhampton, which comes in at a middling 262nd place in the survey, is not down there with them.

Outraged civic leaders say the figures fail to take into account the many regeneration schemes lined up for their areas. But aside from the proposed new Debenhams store at the Mander Centre, which will hopefully give Wolverhampton a boost, what else is in the pipeline to turn around these towns which persistently punch below their weight? Is a new market place in Dudley really going to bring back the likes of Beatties? I doubt it.

Of course, it is unfair to lay all the blame at cash-strapped councils, which in reality do not have as much power as we would like to think over where retailers choose to locate. What would be nice, though, would be for our leaders to admit there is a problem, instead of indignantly protesting at the unfairness of it all. Talking up tourism really isn't much help when it comes to the weekly shop.

The one ray of hope is the Queen's Square shopping centre in West Bromwich, which has breathed some life into the town by giving people what they want - large retail units with ample car parking, which are able to attract the big-name retailers. More please.

I'm a Black Country lad, and I will always support my local town, whatever the surveys say. But I do this out of blind loyalty, in pretty much the same way that I will always support Aston Villa, even though, more often than not, this involves paying out for an experience which leaves me feeling deflated and disheartened.

The trouble is, I suspect I am one of a dying breed, and this cannot bode well for the Black Country at all. Just as many youngsters today reject the dubious pleasures of supporting their underachieving local teams in favour of watching the expensively assembled stars of Chelsea, Manchester City or United on television, how likely is it that many of the younger generation will continue to support the likes of our ailing towns and cities, when they can just hop on a train to the bright lights of Birmingham's Bull Ring?



Present day pit guide Pete Myatt from Pedmore



Black Country miners about to go underground



In the thick of it - guide Keith Mellor from Halesowen

Museum's mine marks milestone

The Black Country Living Museum coal mine exhibit is 25 years old. **CHARLIE BENTON** reports

ITS dark, winding tunnels have transported a generation of museum visitors back in time to the subterranean world of the Black Country's mining past.

Now the Black Country Living Museum is celebrating 25 years since its £1 million man-made coal mine exhibit first opened to the public.

Four million visitors have been taken 'into the thick' since November 1989, up to 1,500 a day during peak times.

The Black Country was famous for the Staffordshire Thick Coal, which lay beneath much of the area in seams up to 10 metres thick and the mine exhibit was created to show how miners worked the thick coal and other seams in the Black Country in about 1850.

Maze

The mine itself is a 'drift mine', accessed by walking down a sloping tunnel. As it comes to an end it splits into a maze of roadways and working areas, recreating the underground conditions as they would have been more than 160 years ago, with the roof coming as low as 1.5 metres in some places.

The mine, which wasn't built until 10 years after the museum itself was first opened, was the brainchild of former director of the museum Ian Walden and was funded entirely by the council and local businesses.

In total, there are over 200 metres worth of tunnels which makes the Into the Thick exhibit one of the largest, if not the largest, replica mine tours in the UK.



Original mine guides Barry Salt, Bryan Harris and Ron Butcher

After originally looking at opening up an old mine, the museum chose to use cement blocks to build a brand new, man-made mine to prevent risks to visitors and minimise flooding.

Despite being unsafe to reopen as an exhibit, the museum has a total of 42 disused mineshafts underneath it. Two of them are preserved at the Racecourse Colliery and Brook Shaft areas of the museum.

Back in the 1800s many of the mines across the Black Country not only endangered their workers, but also those

who lived in houses above them, which were slowly 'pit-pulled' down into the empty space below. The museum has an example of the phenomenon on-site in the form of a 'tilted cottage'.

"It's easy to forget the kind of working conditions miners were subjected to," said David Eveleigh, Director of Collections, Learning & Research at the museum. "The mine tour is important because it immerses our visitors into the world of the miner in a way that hearing or reading about it simply can't."

"It is one of the most popular activities on our site for good reason and it especially resonates with children, the group which would have suffered the most at the hands of lax labour laws."

Ken Bradley, chairman of the Friends of the Black Country Museum group, said: "The museum wanted to illustrate how vital mining was to the area and how dangerous that work was."

"The site that the museum is built on actually had many working mines and there were enquiries made as to whether one of them could be used but the idea was turned down by the mine safety people as there were lots of problems with it."

"The director decided that a way around this would be to do a reconstruction mine and that is how it came about."

Mr Bradley said the contractors brought in to construct the mine were also involved with the living history Jorvik Viking attraction in York.

"The contractors at the time made panels out of synthetic materials to simulate the coalface," Mr Bradley said. "But when they were laying them they came across a real coal seam."

"Although they weren't allowed to leave the seam itself open they actually took patterns and remade the panels to look exactly the same."

He added: "My father was a coal miner in a real working mine and stepping into the reconstruction for the first time all those years ago suddenly brought everything back because it is so realistic."

As part of the anniversary celebrations the original tour guides have been invited back to the museum to take a tour themselves to commemorate the milestone.

Bryan Harris, of Gornal, 78, was a mine guide for more than 20 years from the 1989 opening. The former banker decided after he retired that he wanted to do something completely different. He said: "I loved every minute of it."

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

WHAT'S in a name? Well, plenty as it happens, particularly when it comes to the identity of the Black Country.

Greater Birmingham is dead. Long live the West Midlands Combined Authority or Birmingham and the Black Country, the councillors haven't figured that one out quite yet.

Five councils have joined forces to work on matters that affect them all and take advantage of whatever new powers or funding they might be offered by the Government.

And the reason they have done it is because the Heart of England is in danger of becoming a squeezed middle. The south east is expanding. The northern towns and cities are teaming up.

If the Black Country and Brum are to get any more than crumbs off the table they have to be pulling in the same direction. At least that's the theory behind the long-running saga of Greater Birmingham.

The problem was that every time some well-meaning person uttered it in the hope of drawing attention to the West Midlands, all it did was provoke a debate about identity.

The use of Greater Birmingham in any sort of marketing exercise did not result in national newspapers writing how the West Midlands was on the up but how its various towns were up in arms about something the London elite found to be terribly quaint. But the Black Country is the Black Country. It won't simply be quietly absorbed. We are Brummies.

The name Greater Birmingham was supposed to be about unity and solidarity. In fact it just turned out to be terribly divisive.

The combined authority is nothing to really get hot under the collar about. No-one is suggesting a new layer of bureaucracy or generous allowances for councillors. Nor are they planning on having yet more elections that barely anyone will bother turning out to vote in.

But ever since the coalition parties and Labour promised Scotland far greater control over its own affairs, there has been a lot of talk about doing the same in England.

That means whether it's the Tories, Labour or another coalition featuring one or the other after the General Election, something has to exist in the West Midlands to take advantage of anything that's on offer.

We're already playing catch up. Greater Manchester has had one for a few years.

Maybe that's why the name Greater Birmingham seemed to roll off so many tongues. As a region we need to get our swagger back and remember what a big deal we all are, particularly when we're on the same side.

Birmingham is bigger than Manchester. It's the second city. It's time for the West Midlands to show London we should be priority number one.

up to **40%** off selected products

- ✓ Old Buildings Removed
- ✓ Asbestos Disposal
- ✓ Base Laying Service
- ✓ Free Quotations

CONCRETE GARAGE ROOF REPLACEMENT SERVICE

Wooden Sheds

Fitted prices from

6ft x 4ft	£239
7ft x 5ft	£269
8ft x 6ft	£299

Concrete Garages

Fitted prices from

Single Garage 16ft x 8ft	£1499
Double Garage 16ft x 16ft	£2999

Summer Houses

Fitted prices from

7ft x 5ft	£575
8ft x 6ft	£685
8ft x 8ft	£745

Log Cabins

Perfect garden rooms all year round!

Wall Log 44mm T&G Double Glazed Insulated Options

✓ Huge Range ✓ Made To Measure Service ✓ Lined & Insulated Options ✓ Quality At Competitive Prices

Show site (open 7 days): Tildasley Street, West Bromwich B70 9SJ (Next to Staples)

Visit our website: www.bettabuildings.co.uk

Call us now: 0121 553 4682

We make it BETTA BUILDINGS

Most people do not want this mosque

IN response to Councillor Waltho's comments regarding officers supporting the new mosque scheme.

The question has to be asked, is he in possession of inside knowledge, as he is not a member of the Planning Committee.

I would also query the figures in opposition of the scheme, and his comments that "it would bring the Community together and transform an eyesore site"

Fair tax? Make big boys pay

WHY is it that when large companies and famous 'personalities' do not pay the full amount of tax that seems due from them it is always called tax avoidance.

Then when your local tradesman/friend of a friend earns a little cash on the side with some undeclared income it has become tax evasion. How, and why, does it change?

Could it be that governments, of all political colours, rely on big companies and 'personalities' for help? Or do they have high-powered legal teams and accountants to help them avoid/evasde taxes? Local trades-people don't have these advantages.

Here is some advice to HMRC. Get some of the 'big boys'. Make them pay. It isn't fair to the citizens of this country that preferential treatment is given to some. Remember the Prime Minister said that we are all in this together.

M GOUGH
Wombourne

With two petitions on this application, of more than fifty thousand names, it has no chance of bringing the community together.

It will in itself be an eyesore, that most of the Dudley population do not want, particularly with the call to prayer being heard all over the town — which the original planning application stated could not be allowed to happen outside the site boundary.

Yet again we the people of Dudley, who pay for our councillors expenses, are being taken for a ride, while they

are riding roughshod over our interests.

I note that the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome have missed their deadline to submit their proposed plans by one day and yet the Dudley Muslim Association have missed their deadline of 31st December 2008 by more than 2,000 days and are still wasting tax payers money with the council having to fight against their proposals.

PHIL CHERRINGTON
Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

No logic to lumping us with Birmingham

IT is with increasing consternation that I am reading more and more about the proposals for Greater Birmingham.

It is just typical of unelected ill-educated bureaucrats in the European Union that they are investigating such a ridiculous idea. Drawing random lines across a map to define 'regions' is a sure fire way to cause dissent from the peoples on either side of them.

In 1916, two diplomats, one French and one British, drew a line across the Middle East to divide up the interests of France and Britain. Today the line created by Sir Paul Sykes and Francois Picot, over a bottle of whisky, is at the centre of the attempt by IS to create a caliphate based on the Ottoman Empire.

The comparison between the two is that some demographic knowledge is required before any division or amalgamation of peoples.

Although I do not envisage taking up arms against the Brunnies, I can see no way that any in the Black Country will ever identify as part of Birmingham, so there will be friction for as long as this ill thought out idea persists.

It is as sensible as drinking whisky whilst trying to sort out the troubles of the Middle East.

M DAY
Dudley

Concern at attack that injured dog

MY son took his dog on the lead on his regular tea time walk at Cotwell End Nature Reserve, as he reached the woods a pack of five bull greyhounds — cross between a greyhound and a bull mastiff — attacked my son's dog.

After a traumatic struggle, my son's dog was finally free but had suffered severe bites. It had to be taken to the animal hospital where one bite required 25 stitches.

Police advised me that although it was a dangerous situation no law had been broken until the dogs attack a person. Can you imagine what the situation would have been had this been a child or a person carrying a dog?

The law is clearly in need of alteration to avoid a future horrific incident and I intend to appeal to my MP.

I would urge all walkers at Cotwell End to avoid walking on their own.

MICHAEL LAW
Dudley

HagleyKitchens

Beautiful Kitchens & Bathrooms, Designed with Imagination and Skillfully Fitted with Care



"A beautiful new kitchen..."

We are so pleased we chose Hagley Kitchens - for Graham and his team nothing was to much trouble...*Thank you!* **Tony & Beryl Rhead - Halesowen**

"like magic everything was in place... tiling, electrics, and beautiful appliances... a fantastically designed kitchen. Graham made everything simple" **Audrey Basterfield, Hasbury**

"They gave us our perfect kitchen, a great local company." **Sandra Donnelly, Kingswinford**

"The kitchen of our Dreams, we made so many changes but all was completed with so little fuss... I love showing off my new kitchen to everyone!! **Norah & Chris Painter, Pedmore**

"A major project completed on time without any problems at all!" **Gill McKenzie, Codsall**

Guaranteed unbeatable on price

See some of our range of beautiful Modern and Traditional kitchens at: www.HagleyKitchens.co.uk

INSTALLATION • TILING • GAS • ELECTRIC • PLUMBING • BUILDING

FANTASTIC SAVINGS

ON OUR uPVC AND DRIVEWAY CLEANING SERVICE!

Discount prices for Autumn and Winter!

- Been thinking about having your UPVC or driveway cleaned?
- Not sure whether to leave it until spring?
- Why not book now and get up to **40%** discount?
- Further discounts for over 65s
- Service includes: Jet Wash/ Weed Kill/ Resand



BTF Cleaning Services are offering huge discounts on their driveway cleaning service if you book in between now and Christmas.

Why not give us a call for your FREE QUOTATION



BTF
CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED

We also specialise in cleaning:

- uPVC/Conservatories
- Window Frames
- Gutters/Fascias/Soffits

TEL/FAX NO: 01384 568345
MOB: 07979 211302

www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk

Narrow Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands. B62 9ND



STOP PAIN...

..With our specialist in Acupuncture, Acupressure, Cupping & Ear Candle



We can help if you

- Suffer with pains in neck, shoulder, elbow, lower back & knee
- Suffer with pain or arthritis, trapped nervous, soft tissue injury & sciatica
- Suffer with pain from swollen joints after operations such as hip replacement and knee replacement
- Suffer with overweight

We can also help

- Infertile couples to get pregnant with a high success rate through acupuncture and herbs
- Infertile couples improving egg quality and sperm count prior to IVF treatment

Or any symptoms you are not sure of, visit us for a confidential consultation or telephone for an appointment

UK Registered
20 Years
Experience

Open 10.30 - 5.30
Monday - Saturday

10B Peckingham Street,
Halesowen

0121 585 9393



INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES

Be Inspired...

Official stockists of



Showroom: 404-406 Bearwood Road, Bearwood B66 4EX Tel: 0121 429 3186

Opening Times: Monday-Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm
www.inspirationalfires.co.uk email: info@inspirationalfires.co.uk



"You'll be blown away"



Whatever your type of property, you'll be blown away by our Conveyancing.

GEORGE GREEN LLP SOLICITORS

www.georgegreen.co.uk

Contact: Mervyn Bufton on 01384 340 561
or email mbufton@georgegreen.co.uk

195 High Street
Cradley Heath
B64 5HW

19 Waterloo Road
Wolverhampton
WV1 4DY

Concept BLINDS

UP TO 50% OFF ALL BLINDS

Vertical & Roller Blinds
New season fabrics now available

Child Safety Features Fitted Free of Charge

5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Also available

- Romans • Pleated
- Conservatory Roof Blinds
- Wood Venetians
- Venetian Blinds
- Curved Tracks for Bay Windows

FREEPHONE 0800 5875279

Open Seven Days a Week
0121 429 3169

FREE Home Quote. FAST Delivery

Halesowen Fireplaces

AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

Complete Fireplace Packages from £499 (including fire)



For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Kwik Fit on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985


Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate, Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

A-Zee Fix

DOUBLE GLAZING INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS

Telephone: 01384 259761 Mobile: 07769 975841

- 70mm Internally Glazed High Security Frames
- 28mm Pilkington 'K' Units
- Document L Compliant
- Shoot Bolt Locking
- Sight Line Glazing
- Secured By Design PAS023 / PAS024



Repairs and Upgrades
Insurance Work
Failed Units
Broken Locks
Door Panels
Letter Boxes
Sticking Doors
Handles and Mechanisms

White
Light Oak
Rosewood
Woodgrain on White

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
PHONE TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION

FENSA
Registration No. 23329

Black Country Glazing

Est 1987

Manufacturers & Installers of windows, doors & conservatories

A rated Windows As Standard

10 Year Guarantee

FREE QUOTATIONS


Which? Trusted Installer

Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ
01384 566100
www.blackcountryglazing.com

Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth

PROLOGIC certass FENSA

CHRONICLE



ARE YOU IN THE PICTURE?
HAVE YOU APPEARED IN THIS WEEK'S CHRONICLE?
ORDER YOUR UNIQUE PERSONALISED CHRISTMAS GIFTS - CHOOSE FROM PHOTOS, CANVAS PRINTS, MUGS, GLASS COASTERS, MOUSEMATS
PLUS MORE - GO TO
PHOTOSFORSALE.EXPRESSANDSTAR.COM
OR CALL (01902) 319444
(MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 9AM TO 5PM)

Please note: Only selected prints available and copyright restrictions apply. Photos available to view and order online the next working day after publication.

Part of Express & Star Ltd MNA Media

Son is told to pay doctor who killed his father

A SON has been ordered to pay thousands of pounds in legal fees after he was sued by the foreign doctor who killed his father.

David Gray died from a massive drug overdose administered by Daniel Ubani on his first shift after flying to the UK from Germany to work as a locum doctor.

Although Ubani was struck off the medical register in the UK, he continues to practise in Germany.

In their campaign for justice, Mr Gray's two sons, Rory and Stuart — a GP in Cradley Heath — confronted Ubani at a medical conference in 2010 accusing him of being 'a charlatan', 'a killer' and an 'animal'.

Rory Gray, aged 49, was sued in a German court by Dr Ubani for the remarks he made at the conference.

Intimidate

Now, a court in Lindau, Germany, has ruled that Mr Gray must pay three quarters of the legal costs, running into thousands of pounds. He must also write Dr Ubani a letter promising never to call him an 'animal' again, and has also been warned he could face a £200,000 fine if he repeats the insult.

Mr Gray said: "It is grotesque. Dr Ubani has never shown any remorse and has tried to intimidate us through the courts."

Dr Ubani was charged with death by negligence at a court in Witten and given a nine-month suspended sentence and ordered to pay 5,000 euros (£4,100) costs but has since continued to practise.

Mr Gray, a scientist who lives in Germany, said he was taking legal advice over the letter and could not comment further on the court action.

Dr Ubani has refused to return to the UK, where he has been struck off the medical register by the General



Stuart, left, and Rory Gray, at an inquest held into their father's death



Dr Daniel Ubani continues to work in Germany Fatal dose — David Gray

Medical Council. An inquest found grandfather-of-four David Gray, 70, was unlawfully killed in 2008 after Dr Ubani, working on his first shift in the UK as an out-of-hours locum, fatally administered 10 times the normal dose of diamorphine.

Dr Ubani, a 67-year-old Nigerian-born German citizen, was working for SuffDoc, part of the out-of-hours GP service provider Take Care Now, at the time of Mr Gray's death.

Mr Gray and his brother Stuart, who works at Church View surgery in Halesowen Road, have claimed the German authorities failed to carry out an effective investigation into his death. They complained to the European Court of Human Rights but it found no violation of human rights.

Isn't it time for a New Garage Door?

With the ESSATI SALE, the decision's made so much easier

Our top of the range electric 'remote controlled' insulated aluminium rolling garage door - operated by hand held 'keyring' handset is currently reduced from a RRP of £2250 - to an amazing £699 inc VAT & fitting.

NOW JUST £699!

INCLUDING VAT & FREE FITTING



70% OFF

Price includes:

- Remote Control & keyring handset
- Manual override for use in a power cut
- All doors conform fully to EU safety directives
- Extremely secure auto-locking system
- White as standard, other colours available - ask for details
- Full 12 month warranty
- Bottom rubber weatherseal
- Price is for any sized single sized door up to 8ft 6" wide
- Double skinned aluminium with foam insulation

CALL 01245 396910

This special offer includes free fitting. The offer on our website does not include free fitting. To benefit from this offer you should call 01245 396910

www.essatigaragedoors.co.uk

USE YOUR LOFT!

Bison Loft Ladders

Access your loft safely and easily with Bison loft stairs. The stairs are made and fitted by our Midlands craftsmen using timber from sustainable sources. A gas strut mechanism requiring just fingertip control makes opening and closing your loft stairs exceptionally easy.

- Fully manufactured in the Midlands
- Free Survey
- 'Bison' loft ladders, only available from us
- Full 10 year parts & labour guarantee
- The only product available with a safety handle in the loft
- Patented gas strut operation
- Fitted in approx 2 hours

Flooring and lighting can also be provided, adding a very useful additional room to your home.

£395 Special offer for limited time only starting from £240 (incl VAT) Quote Ref B2



Safety hand rail Unique to Bison

Over 5,000 installations to date!

7,000

VISA MasterCard

All major credit cards accepted

Remembrance service

at Stourbridge Crematorium
Sunday 7 December 2014, 11am

This service is particularly appropriate where the funeral of a relative or friend has taken place at the crematorium, however, everyone is welcome.

Due to high demand, admission is by ticket only. Tickets are available by calling 01384 813985 or visiting the crematorium office from Tuesday 19 November after 10.30am.

At the end of each service staff will be available to show visitors around and answer any questions about the crematorium.



Dudley

theloftstairscompany

The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 59, Alcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY4 4UG
Visit our website www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk

Freephone 0800 389 1281

Passengers flee as their bus bursts into flames



Lucky escape – no-one was hurt in the blaze which ripped through the bus. Pictures by Robert Cartwright

PASSENGERS were forced to flee a bus that burst into flames.

The blaze broke out at the back of a double decker National Express bus in Quarry Bank High Street on Thursday morning, just before 7am.

Firefighters said that about 20 per cent of the bus was engulfed in flames towards the rear of the lower deck.

Robert Cartwright was heading to work when he saw the fire. He said: "I first noticed the fire when I pulled up behind a parked lorry which couldn't get past because of it. The fire service

turned up almost immediately. It only took them about two or three minutes. It was quite surreal to see this bus with flames just pouring out of it."

National Express spokesman Jack Kelly said: "There were about eight people on the bus. The driver heard a noise, immediately stopped the vehicle and got people off. Nobody was hurt during the incident and we are working hard to establish the cause."

Firefighters from Haden Cross and Brierley Hill were called to the number 41 bus which runs through Halesowen and Cradley Heath to Merry Hill shopping centre.



Firefighters tackling the blaze

New Boiler & Radiators, Pipework - Fitted!

Now Only **£2850** T/C apply!

ideal

Boilers
...now with
7 & 10 year
guarantee

BOILERS
from
£550

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

All boilers available from **WORCESTER** Bosch Group + **Budget Ranges**

Boiler Services from **£40**

ECOPIPE
Plumbing & Heating Solutions



CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE, NO JOB TOO SMALL

01299 827070 | 07545 631731



www.ecopipeheating.co.uk ecopipe@live.co.uk

ALL AREAS COVERED

Hasbury Windows Ltd

AUTUMN OFFERS

it has to be **HASBURY** **Probably the best windows in town!**

Inliten Front Door in White **£450** incl. fitting

- FRONT DOOR STANDARD SPEC:**
- Inliten 70mm single doors only
 - Lever/lever handle and hook lock
 - Fitted with white furniture
 - Left hand or right hand opening
 - Panel Thickness: 28mm
 - Choice of 6 white panel doors

- PANEL DOOR - HARDWARE FEATURES:**
- PAS 24 security testing on flag hinges
 - 3 hinges have carrying capacity of 120kg
 - Longer lasting performance on hardware
 - Locking system - exclusive to Camden & one of the most superior on the market



Inliten Back Door in White

£395 incl. fitting

- BACK DOOR STANDARD SPEC:**
- Inliten 70mm single doors only
 - Lever/lever handle and hook lock
 - Supplied with Monaco half panel (top pane glazed)
 - Panel Thickness: 28mm
 - Left hand or right hand opening
 - White furniture/hardware

TRADE ENQUIRES WELCOME



6 Flat Windows & 2 Doors

£2999

Includes Fitting & VAT

- * Your local well established business offering top quality products and service
- * No payment until completion
- * Call us now for a great deal on your new windows and doors
- * Visit our showroom
- * Deal direct with the owner
- * If you want quality, value and service it 'has to be Hasbury'!

DON'T BUY FROM ANYWHERE ELSE UNTIL YOU GET A QUOTE FROM US



Sealed Units Replacement Available From £10
'We will beat any genuine written quote'

All work carries a full 10 Year insurance backed Guarantee

Excellent service from start to finish. Reliable and friendly.

MR G UPTON
HALESOWEN

Lovely job, fitters made no mess! Would definitely recommend again.

MR & MRS LEWIS
LOWER GORNAL

9 HALESOWEN ROAD, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS B62 9AA

0121 421 7001 / 0121 421 2104 / 01384 78796

FENSA
Registered 30179

SHOWROOM OPEN:
Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm
Sat 10 am-2 pm
PHONELINES OPEN:
9 am-9 pm

It's the best time of year to fit new windows!



L&S PLUMBING & HEATING

Tel: 07891 333603 or 07896 999046
email: landsplumbing1@gmail.com

CAN'T AFFORD A NEW BOILER? WELL NOW YOU CAN!


NEW BOILERS FITTED FOR CHRISTMAS FROM JUST £17.99 PER MONTH / FOR YOUR FREE SURVEY... CALL TODAY

- All Domestic Plumbing
- Repairs & Installations
- Boiler Replacements
- Boiler Servicing
- Bathroom & Kitchen Specialists
- Full Central Heating Installations
- Quality Skilled Gas Technicians

Landlord Gas Safety Certificates Supplied
All Makes of Boilers Installed & Serviced
Gas Boilers Serviced from just £40



FOR FREE EXPERT ADVICE & QUOTE
WITH NO CALLOUT CHARGE (at affordable realistic prices)
Contact Lee or Stuart,
L & S Plumbing & Heating, Unit 10B Foxoak Street, Cradley Heath B64 5DP

YOU COULD SAVE HUNDREDS OF POUNDS ON YOUR HEATING BILLS!! BY INSTALLING A HIGH EFFICIENCY BOILER NOW

'A' RATED BOILERS
Fully Fitted From Only **£850** INC VAT

All major credit cards accepted

Join Our Team in Telford

We require agents to control distribution of your free newspaper.

This is an ideal position for someone with a little spare time, a car and telephone.

This is an interesting job with flexible working hours and a good rate of pay controlling your own team of distributors in your local area.

Interested?

Then telephone
Express Distribution 01902 319990



X-rated Cheryl is still Only Human

Reviews by Leon Burakowski

CHERYL has changed her surname so many times that it has apparently been dropped now that she has released her fourth album, *Only Human* (Polydor).

Never the strongest singer in Girls Aloud, her solo material has seldom lived up to her celebrity but she is getting things mostly right on *Only Human*, despite courting controversy with her liberal use of the F-word. We know she can do up-tempo dance-pop, I Don't (xxxxing) Care, the quirky Crazy Stupid Love (with guest Tinie Tempah) and frantic Firecracker (on the deluxe album) prove that. But this time she actually achieves a decent ballad the, admittedly vocodered, title track.

Blending Philadelphia smooth disco with Bacharach-like pop sophistication, *Rumer* returns with an album of new material that lives up to the promise of her million-selling debut *Seasons of the Soul*. *Into Colour* (Atlantic Records), featuring the 70s sounding Dangerous, is a mellow album and well-crafted to appeal to fans of The Carpenters and Carly Simon.

Jessie J has finally broken big in America with *Bang Bang*, helped by guest Nicki Minaj. It is a stand-out track on her third album *Sweet Talker* (Lava) on which stateside R&B dominates her Essex girl pop. Other highlights include retro 80s club groove Seal Me With A Kiss (featuring De La Soul) and Burnin' Up. Lyrically Jessie seems obsessed with people who don't like her music. She's in concert at Birmingham O2 Academy on January 27.

American rock veteran singer-songwriter Jackson Browne takes a weary look at the world and gently urges defiance to the forces of fracking and



Fourth album from singer and X Factor judge Cheryl Fernandez-Versini



After a Slow start, silky smooth-voiced Rumer has returned

firearms on his 14th album *Standing In The Breach* (Inside Recordings). He is in concert at Birmingham Symphony Hall on Monday, November 17.

Edwin Starr was, until his death in 2003, the UK's favourite soul man thanks to his decision to leave the US to pursue his career in Britain, basing himself near Birmingham. His 1971 funk and soul album *Involved* has been remastered and reissued on CD by BBR. It includes his best known song, War, plus covers including Sly Stone's Stand and George Harrison's My Sweet Lord. The package includes 14 bonus tracks. Or experience Motown's rawest voice on the remastered reissue 1968 debut *Soul Master* including hits Agent Double-O-Soul, Stop Her On Sight, Headline News.

The bonus tracks include his Northern Soul classic Back Street. There are lots of Northern Soul compilations but if you want to dig a little deeper check out *Dancing By Myself: Lost In Northern Soul* for a plethora of vintage stompers. Raiding 60s soul vaults this 22-track CD from Cherry Red's Righteous label unearths gems such as The Five Royales' Catch That Teardrop and I Need You by the Van Dells. But Miss Orangatang by Lincoln Chase should probably have remained buried.

If 70s soul is your thang, the lush duets of Motown acts *Thelma Houston and Jerry Butler* on Soul Music Records two-for-one CD reissue, *Thelma & Jerry and Two To One* (expanded edition) in one soulful package worth seeking out. A classy partnership.



GET CUSTOMERS MOVING ADVERTISE

Advertisements in local newspapers and websites are the most popular way of keeping an eye on the property market

SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014

To find out more about advertising in the Express & Star call 01902 31 31 31

Express & Star

WILLIAM & SONS CLEARANCE

MASSIVE SHOWROOM & WAREHOUSE RE-ORGANISATION

**FINAL 3 DAYS
NO REASONABLE
OFFER REFUSED!**

"We're clearing large quantities
of lounge, dining, living
and bedroom furniture!"

- ALL STOCK MUST GO!
- THIS WEEKEND ONLY!
- DOORS CLOSE SUNDAY 5pm!



Fabric...



Dining...



Living...

CLEARANCE £999	ASHWOOD CARMEN Large & small sofas, chair & stool OVER 68% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £3129 Save £2130	SALOTTI ITALIA CAIRO Luxurious cream sofa in CAT 20 real Italian leather 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £2159 Save £1300	CLEARANCE £859
CLEARANCE £689	BUOYANT HEMMINGWAY Large sofa & chair in Anna beige fabric LESS THAN HALF PRICE TO CLEAR! Was £1489 Save £800	HTL FERUCCI Large twin power motion sofa, small sofa plus reclining chair all in LEATHER OVER 62% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £4249 Save £2650	CLEARANCE £1599
CLEARANCE £399	ROM FIONA Contemporary accent chair & stool set 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £985 Save £586	SICILIA LEATHER Footstool in CAT25 NC037 walnut leather 75% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £281 Save £212	CLEARANCE £69
CLEARANCE £849	ZONE CARMARGUE 9 ITEM contemporary light oak dining group dining table, 6 x chairs, sideboard & mirror OVER 66% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £2519 Save £1670	SILENTNIGHT LUCIO Miracoil Memory king-size bed with storage drawers 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £739 Save £440	CLEARANCE £299
CLEARANCE £19	STOCKHOLM LIVING Model OLS08 lamp table OVER 70% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £69 Save £50	SILENTNIGHT POMONE Miracoil king-size mattress LESS THAN HALF PRICE TO CLEAR! Was £339 Save £200	CLEARANCE £139
CLEARANCE £179	MORRIS MONTROSE Model MER112 bookcase OVER 55% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £399 Save £220	KAYDIAN EVOLUTION King-size memory mattress OVER 75% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1329 Save £1000	CLEARANCE £329
CLEARANCE £75	MARK WEBSTER Canterbury contemporary light oak lamp table 70% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £249 Save £174	NOLTE MOBEL SALERNO Tall 5 draw chest OVER 63% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £549 Save £350	CLEARANCE £199
CLEARANCE £199	BAKER FURNITURE Carson LS13 "Dinghy" styled bookcase 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £499 Save £300	KINGSTOWN SEVILLE Model SGT0297 large 7 draw wide chest 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £669 Save £400	CLEARANCE £269
CLEARANCE £259	CAXTON DOMINION Model DS1150 wild oak style entertainment unit 65% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £759 Save £500	MORRIS ONLY BEDROOM Model ORL627 wall mirror Over 75% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £209 Save £160	CLEARANCE £49



Leather...



Beds...



Bedrooms...

Alstons



BUOYANT

WADE
UPHOLSTERY

Silentnight

MYER'S
COMFORTABLE IDEAS



Relaxteeze
comfort in action

steed



HTL

ZONE

Harrison
TAILOR MADE BEDS SINCE 1989

In your home for Christmas, plus MASSIVE DISCOUNTS available on all special order items!



WILLIAM & SONS

Level Street
Merry Hill, Dudley
West Midlands
DY5 1UA
T. 01384 77444
www.williamandsons.co.uk



CLEARANCE TIMES:
Friday 10-5.30pm
Saturday 10-6pm
Sunday 11-5pm



Evacuees and local children from Newborough village school



Daphne Slade, left, with her distant aunt and uncle in Norton Canes



Ray and Reg Williams were evacuated to Colton from Westgate-on-Sea

Emotive look at Children on the Move during war

THE stories of children sent away to live with new families during the Second World War is being told in an exhibition.

Many youngsters from across England ended up in Staffordshire as they were ushered away from the firing line. And they built up relationships with their new families that ended up lasting a lifetime.

Evocative images are on display at the Museum of Cannock Chase in Hednesford in the Children on the Move exhibition.

Among the evacuees was Daphne Slade, who was evacuated from London to Norton Canes at the age of five.

She remembers clearly the blackout in London and how the kerbs were painted so people 'wouldn't knock into each other' as they walked.

Her parents had letters about the evacuation and decided to send Daphne and her sister on 'The City of Benares', a ship travelling to Canada.

They were sent instead with a distant auntie and uncle in Norton Canes and travelled there by train by themselves. The couple were publicans and

MEMORY LANE

By Adam Burling

Daphne learned to play the piano in their bar. When the London bombing got worse her parents moved in with them and then got a house three doors down.

Ivy Field, from Birmingham, ended up at Pipewood boarding school for girls near Rugeley. She had originally been taken to Henley-in-Arden in Warwickshire before being transferred.

At Pipewood, Ivy spent a lot of time outside with the rest of the boarders, tending to chickens and her little vegetable patch, and attending the local church on Sundays.

She can remember the monthly Sunday visits by her family, and received one or two visits from her cousin who was based at Hednesford.

Ivy said she thanks her time at Pipewood for teaching her skills she might otherwise not have had the chance to learn, like typing, filleting fish and dancing. While she was at Pipewood her house received a direct hit, so she

could never return to her original family home. All of her family had been out of the house at the time, and so they were all safe.

Another Pipewood evacuee was Ethel Ridley, who travelled there from Sparkbrook in Birmingham.

Children such as Shirley Webb had come from as far away as Kent, where she left behind her parents to stay in Colton.

Along with her brother, they were taken to the biggest house in the village which stood in its own grounds.

They were taken care of by their 18-year-old daughter who did not really know how to look after small children. Shirley and her brother ended up spending more time with the house servants. They shared their meals with the servants and the cook in particular was a lovely lady who used to take them back to her home in Rugeley.

The exhibition runs until December 19. Collections officer Yvonne Cooper said: "There is a wide range of stories about children that were evacuated."

"We have complemented it with artefacts from our own Second World War collection, which adds more to it."



Peter Phipps of Margate was billeted in Hednesford



Miss Evans-Rose, headmistress at Pipewood boarding camp took this shot of girls getting ready for bed

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH

24/7
Emergency
Call Out



Gastek
Solutions

WORCESTER accredited installer
Bosch

NEW GASTEK HOME SAFE PLAN

- Free Annual Boiler service
- Taps and Toilets
- Unlimited Call Outs
- All Parts And Labour Included
- Internal & External Drains
- Gas & Water Supply Pipes

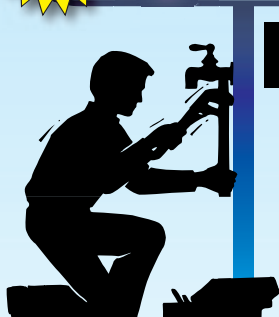
PLUS MOOR !

ALL FROM JUST £9.99 PER MONTH

t/c apply

CALL TODAY AND SPEAK TO THE TEAM

01384 560 856



- Boiler Services
- Landlord Checks
- Full Central Heating Systems
- Boiler Swaps and Conversions
- Bathroom Installations
- Power Flushing
- Gas Appliance Installations
- All Domestic Plumbing Work

NEW SHOWROOM NOW OPEN

Unit B15 Anchor Business Park, Dudley DY2 9AF

Office Open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday 8am-4pm Saturday

Tel: 01384 560856

info@Gasteksolutions.co.uk
www.gasteksolutions.co.uk

ALL MAJOR CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED



Gastek Solutions Ltd Your local heating and plumbing business local to you.

With friendly engineers and advisors who can save you money and put a smile back on your face!

We have been operating in the West Midlands area for more than 10 years and have constantly strived to deliver a fantastic service to our new and existing customers.

The Director; Phil Kitson has seen a boost in the company over the 10 year period and has obtained a team of highly trained and Gas Safe engineers to help him along the way.

Building his business from scratch, Phil has obtained an excellent record for speedy diagnosis and repairs for boilers, as well as full heating installations and general plumbing work.

He has since broadened his horizons and gone on to bathroom installations including full en-suites as well as keeping up with the heating industry.

Starting off with just one engineer; he has built up loyal relationships with his customers as well as his staff and in turn, his reputation and credibility are well known for being one of the best.

To date, we now have 10 members of staff and hope to build the company and create more jobs for local people.

2014 has been one of the company's strongest and busiest years to date,

thank you to all of our customers, new and existing.

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH

Glassworks transformed into 27 stylish homes

A FORMER glassworks in Brierley Hill that was famous around the world has been transformed into homes.

The Royal Brierley Hill Crystal Works, a grade II listed building, lay empty for around 15 years before a major redevelopment got under way.

Old factory floors are being restored and offices overhauled to create 27 houses and flats, all while keeping ornate period features. Former pulleys and period entrances now feature at the homes which have now gone on the market.

Dream

Developer John Woodcock died earlier this year and did not see his dream to transform the site come to fruition but the project has continued through his family firm. Mr Woodcock bought the old Stevens and Williams Royal Brierley glassworks, based off North Street, around eight years ago.

Around 17 homes have already been purchased on the site over the past two weeks, marketed by agents Walton and Hipkiss.

Brierley Hill Civic Society have welcomed the developed and paid tribute to the efforts of the developers.

Society member Tim Sunter said: "It is a very good development and I think people will be very impressed."

"It pays tribute to the heritage of the glassworks and it is nice that old period features like the pulleys remain inside."

Estate agent Brett Walton added: "We have already had a lot of interest in this site. This factory lay derelict for around 15 years so it is great to see what work they have done so far."

The development is due for completion next year. Production at the factory ended in the 1990s.



The Royal Brierley Hill Glassworks



A bedroom at one of the new homes



Some of the stylish living space



Heritage revamped into homes



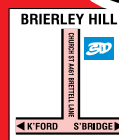
Due to our massive buying power STD have just purchased over 100 rolls of Stain free Twist, Cut and Loop, Axminster Kitchen Carpets etc. With savings of up to 50% off other retailers prices

PRICES SUCH AS

Brintons Axminster.....	£19.95 Sq.yd
Wiltens From	£7.95 Sq.yd
100% Wool naturals	£7.95 Sq.yd
Heavy duty Saxons from	£9.95 Sq.yd
Tomkinsons 80/20 wool twist	£9.95 Sq.yd
Stainfree Heavy twist	£6.95 Sq.yd
Gel back Kitchen carpet ..	£3.95 Sq.yd

Over 300 part rolls all less 50%

STD are the largest stockists of carpets in the Midlands with the best selection, the best fitters, and are NEVER undercut on price



Open 6 days a week 9.00 to 5.30
Sunday 10.30 to 4.00,
Closed Wednesdays

Church Street, Brierley Hill
01384 76448

BIGGEST MIDLANDS MANUFACTURER

SAVE £££s on Energy Bills
with our A Rated Windows with

70% OFF!

BEAT THIS FOR WINDOWS

ANY SIZE From £199 *



6 WINDOWS & 2 DOORS

£1,795*

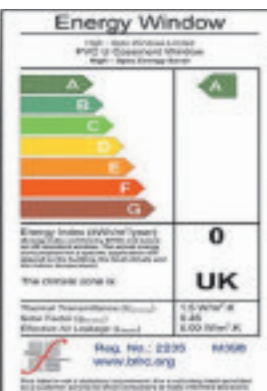
CONSERVATORIES



3m x 3m £4,999
4m x 3m £5,999
4m x 4m £6,999

COMPARE OUR QUALITY & PRICE -
DON'T SIGN UP UNTIL
YOU SPEAK TO US!

Manufactured to BS standards
of quality and performance



**CUT
OUT THE
MIDDLE
MAN!**

WE ARE THE
MANUFACTURER

**REPAIR ONLY
SERVICE
AVAILABLE**

COME TO OUR
FACTORY AND
SHOWROOM TO GET
TO LOOK AT OUR
WORK FIRST HAND

22 years experience

LIFETIME GUARANTEE ON DOUBLE GLAZED UNITS!

HIGH SPEC
Windows & Conservatories

*Terms & Conditions Apply

FREEPHONE 0800 007 5312

Open 7 days a week Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm
FACTORY & SHOWROOM - ROOD END ROAD, OLDBURY, B68 8SF
www.hispecwindows.co.uk

FENSA
Registered Company





Come and find out who we are.

After another summer of record breaking exam results we are throwing our doors open to external sixth form candidates. It's a great opportunity to meet our students and staff, tour our sixth form facilities and find out why Forge students get the best results.

Sixth Form open evening
Wednesday 26th November 5pm-7pm

For more information call 01384 566598
or visit www.ormistonforgeacademy.co.uk
@ormiston_forge



Fans scramble for Sachin 'selfie'



Sachin superstar — fans try to take 'selfies' with 'God of Cricket' Sachin Tendulkar, at Tesco Extra in West Bromwich
HUNDREDS of fans of cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar turned out to catch a glimpse of their sports hero and to capture the ultimate prize — a selfie with him.

The Indian cricketer, who is the greatest run scorer in the history of the game, made a guest appearance amid tight security at Tesco Extra in New Square, West Bromwich on Saturday to sign copies of his book.

There were security guards and police officers surround-

ing him as excited fans scrambled to get close enough to take his photo or pose alongside him.

Dozens of them queued throughout the night ahead of his arrival at the store in the town's new shopping centre.

Organisers of the event say more than 500 people came along to snap up copies of his autobiography *Playing It My Way*, charting his career until his retirement last year.

NHS at 'breaking point'

GOODWILL and commitment in the NHS are at 'breaking point' according to one of the 11 unions taking strike action over pay this month.

Nurses, midwives, cleaners, pharmacists, scientists, porters, secretaries, paramedics, occupational therapists, radiographers, dieticians, healthcare assistants, kitchen and maintenance staff will stage a four-hour stoppage in the morning on November 24.

In total 11 unions are walking out. They will then take action short of a strike until November 30.

A series of strikes have been held in recent weeks by different groups of staff. Picket lines were set up outside New Cross, Walsall Manor, Russells Hall, Sandwell General and several other local hospitals.

Ravi Subramanian, Unison West Midlands regional secretary said: "The next step of industrial action will be even stronger as more unions are joining in. Health workers care for patients and their families every day

of the year. The NHS depends on the goodwill and commitment of the workforce and this is now at breaking point.

"The Government has made no attempt to resolve this dispute and staff have been left with no alternative but to take more industrial action. Jeremy Hunt needs to realise that this dispute is not going away. All we are asking for is fair pay."

The Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association and British Dietetic Association are staging a week of action short of strike action between November 25 and 30.

£344,000 spending by college on temps

ALMOST £350,000 was forked out on agency staff by Sandwell College over one year. Spending on temporary workers there has gone up by almost 20 per cent in four years.

New figures show the college spent £344,294 on agency workers over the last financial year — up from £278,544 in 2009/10.

The increase comes as student admissions at the college continue to rise, with almost twice as many full-time 16 to 18-year-olds this year than four years ago. Bosses say they have used agency staff to ensure there are enough teachers for classes.

A spokesman for the college said: "As is common with all colleges and businesses, where we have temporary staffing requirements we use agency staff. We always put our learners first."

He added: "Whilst this (increase in agency spend) is the case, it has to be set against the background that the number of full-time 16 to 18-year-olds almost doubled."

Most of the agency spend was in the automotive and electronic department at £118,927. Second highest was in health and social care, £43,628. In the health and safety department, the college spent £38,925.

A total of £22,394 was spent on agency staff working in the study link department, which offers support to students.

SALES - SPARES - REPAIRS



FRIDGE FREEZERS
FROM £149



WASHING MACHINES
FROM £139



DISHWASHERS
FROM £179

MASSIVE REFRIGERATION SALE NOW ON
MUST END SOON!!!

Larders from **£89**
Cookers from **£139**
Freezers from **£99**

Dryers from **£99**
Vacuums from **£39**
Spinners from **£99**

All items carry a 12 Month Guarantee

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm • Saturday 9.30am - 5pm

A.A. DOMESTICS

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

14 Hagley Road, Halesowen
West Midlands B63 4RG

Tel: 0121 550 9800 • Email: aadomestics22@yahoo.com

Also At : 60 Halesowen Road, Neatherton DY2 9QA

Monday - Friday 9am 5pm

Saturday 9.30 am 5 pm



JOHN T. HARRIS

House Furnishers & Re-Upholstery Service



Recliner Chairs

Sherborne

Stockist of
chairs to make
sitting and
rising easier

You can relax with us



Ortho Chairs

•Divan Beds •Bed Frames •Mattresses



0121 559 2402

1A Causeway, Blackheath

Now open Saturday 10am-2pm, Weekdays 10am-4.00pm

Closed all day Thursday • Private car park

SELL IT FAST SELL IT LOCAL

Cars, Caravans, Household Goods etc.



ONLY

£19.50
FOR 6 NIGHTS

PLUS

6 nights Free if you do not sell!

Includes one week online and your local Chronicles

TELEPHONE - 01902 317878

ON LINE - www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

IN PERSON - At your local Express & Star office

*SOURCE: Jicreg 01.10.2012. Private advertisers only.

Buy Local, Sell Local
01902 317878

Classified Ads

Birmingham Dogs' Home has a long and notable history in the care and protection of rescuing strays from the city streets of Birmingham and surrounding towns and villages in the West Midlands.

It was founded in 1892 on land that was made available by the late Sir Alfred Gooch Bart in New Canal Street, Birmingham, and proudly displayed the heading 'Birmingham Home for Lost and Starving Dogs' above its doors, a sign that is still present on the building, having been restored by its current owners.

Almost 100 years later - in 1987 - the Duchess of York officially opened the New Bartholomew Street home, which had been purpose-built to provide shelter and protection for over 150 abandoned dogs in comfortable kennel blocks with adjacent facilities, such as its own vets' clinic, puppy unit and isolation block.

The home is a charity which can only survive through the generosity and support of the general public and

benefactors from the local community. Without this we would be unable to carry on the vital work of rescuing and rehoming abandoned dogs.

Rescued

We at Birmingham Dogs' Home are here primarily to ensure that the abandoned dogs coming into our care are rescued from their plight, reunited with owners who may have lost them or rehomed to families that will respect and nurture them.

Our **rehoming procedure** is designed and operated principally to be both practical and fair. It takes into consideration the high number of dogs brought into our homes on a daily and weekly basis as well as our desire to find the best possible home for each individual dog in our care.

The public are free to walk around our homes to view our dogs at any time during our opening hours of Monday to Saturday 11am - 4.45pm, but they should be aware that not all dogs are available for rehoming. Some are stray dogs due to be claimed by their owners while others are under assessment by our staff for either medical or behavioural concerns.

Once you have spent time with one of our dogs and are satisfied that you would like to offer the dog a home, our rehoming staff will take you through the various stages required to complete the process. No pressure is placed on anyone to offer a dog a home. We do stress, however, to anyone considering this option that they must take as much time necessary before deciding to reserve a dog in our care.

Abandoned

Your help brings hope and happy tomorrows for abandoned dogs

Fundraising is the life's blood of Birmingham Dogs' Home. Without it we simply could not exist.

With no Government funding, we survive purely through the generous contributions of the general public, interested companies, groups, organisations and kind-hearted individuals who may or may not have purchased dogs from us and have remembered us in their Wills.

Legacies and other contributions are valued beyond compare and allow us to carry on providing care and protection for unwanted dogs.

This ensures that we can continue to rescue these unfortunate animals, oversee their welfare and good health and treat any conditions with first class veterinary attention all with one aim in mind ... to see them happily rehomed to loving new families.

Our highly trained kennel team do the rest with loving pastoral care prior to their four-legged charges leaving for pastures new.

There are various fundraising routes available for those who wish to donate. Whichever, we at Birmingham Dogs' Home are deeply indebted to those of you who work so tirelessly to help us help them ...

Birmingham
**Dogs
Home**

WANTED
Abandoned faithful
companion seeks loving
new home. Happy
disposition despite
neglect. Just wants to
give love and be loved.

Please call

0121 643 5211

**We have many dogs desperate for new homes.
Please feel free to visit our centre or log onto our website.**

www.birminghamdogshome.org.uk

If you cannot rehome you can help us with donations or sponsorship

10 New Bartholomew Street • Birmingham B5 5QS

Shock as ‘priceless’ borough war painting has vanished

A PRICELESS painting depicting a Brierley Hill war hero rescuing a fallen soldier from the trenches has gone missing.

The oil painting depicting First World War soldier Sergeant William Jordan rescuing a wounded comrade in May 1915, was painted by artist Francis Gibbons. Mr Gibbons, who lived in Wordsley, donated it as a gift to be hung in Brierley Hill council chamber in 1917.

The picture was later moved to Brierley Hill's old free library, in Moor Street, and remained there until the 1970s when it was moved to the new library in High Street.

Sgt WH Jordan, of the South Staffordshire Regiment, who lived in Campbell Street, Brockmoor, died on the opening day of the Battle of Loos on September 25, 1915.

The painting's history was re-

searched by members of Brierley Hill Civic Society who photographed the painting last July. But the painting is now missing.

Civic society Tim Sunter said: "It is very sad that the picture now seems to be lost. Given the historical context of the painting it must be viewed as being irreplaceable and therefore priceless."

Libraries boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "It has been stored in the publicly accessible map cabinet in the library, as part of the local history collection, and we were saddened to discover that the picture appears to have been stolen."

"We would urge anyone with information about its whereabouts to let us know as we would be only too happy to display it as part of our tribute to the 100th anniversary of the First World War."



A detail from the 1917 oil painting that is feared stolen from Dudley's collection of art

Plant says no to £500m Led Zep tour

ROBERT Plant has reportedly turned down more than £500 million to take part in a Led Zeppelin reunion tour.

The rock legend was promised the huge sum from Richard Branson in return for 35 dates in three cities. But despite all the other members of the group signing up, Plant reportedly ripped up the contract.

The tour would have earned the singer and fellow founders Jimmy Page and John Paul Jones £190 million each before tax. But Plant, aged 66, said it wasn't the right thing to do.

A source said: "They have tried to talk him round but there is no chance. His mind is made up and that's that."

The cash was to be split between Plant, Page, 70, and Jones, 68, while Jason Bonham, 48, son of late drummer John, would have been paid a wage to perform.

The source said: "Jimmy, John and Jason signed up immediately. It was a no-brainer for them but Robert asked for 48 hours to think about it. When he said no and ripped up the paperwork he had been given, there was an enormous sense of shock. There is no way they can go ahead without him."

USA-style primary to choose Tory candidate

A US-style open primary will offer voters the chance to select a Tory candidate in a key marginal West Midlands seat of Dudley South.

The Conservatives are inviting people to choose from a shortlist of candidates to replace Chris Kelly, who is standing down after one term. The move copies political parties in the USA who let voters have the final say on the candidates, even if they are not party members.

It has been used in the recent Clacton by-election, which the Tories lost to UKIP, and in the upcoming Rochester and Strood by-election.

People have until November 21 to register at the website www.dudleysouth-conservatives.com/open-primary and a public meeting will take place on November 26. It is open to anyone who lives in the constituency and is aged 18 or over.

The constituency takes in Brierley Hill, Brockmoor and Pensnett, Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South, Netherton, Woodside, St Andrews and Wordsley. At the last election there were more than 61,000 registered voters.

The winning candidate will try to defend the 3,856 vote majority Mr Kelly won from Labour in 2010. But he or she will face competition from both Labour and UKIP. The Conservatives in Dudley were shocked earlier this month by the defection of two councillors — Glenis Simms and Cheryl Billingham — to Labour.

Mexican food outlet up for business prize

BURRITO Kitchen has been refuelling weary shoppers at Merry Hill shopping centre for nearly two years.

Its range of fast Mexican food has proved a hit since 25-year-old entrepreneur Tim Stillwell, a former contestant on TV's The Apprentice, opened it after appearing on the hit BBC show.

Now the Eat Central outlet is beginning to gain wider recognition and was named one of the top 100 best up-and-coming businesses in the country.

Having recently bagged the title of best Midland's start-up in the Lloyds Bank Enterprise Awards, it has now been named in the 'O2 Smarta 100'. The list recognises the most resourceful, inspiring and ground-breaking small businesses in the UK. The final winner — to be announced this month — picks up a cheque for £10,000.

Tim, from Birmingham, was inspired for fresh Mexican food when spending a year abroad.

By Daniel Wainwright

Mr Kelly announced he would be leaving the Commons at the General Election saying he had found it 'increasingly difficult to find the right balance between my work and my personal and family life' and that the 'unpredictability of business in the Commons combined with driving back and forth between the West Midlands and London has meant that I haven't been able to see those close to me as often as I'd like'.

He threw his support behind the open primary process, adding: "I have always worked for everyone, regardless of whether or not they voted for me."

A similar system was used to select Paul Uppal, who went on to win Wolverhampton South West in 2010.

The Dudley constituencies will be crucial to the outcome of the General Election. Neighbouring Dudley North was held by Labour with a slender majority while Dudley South, Halesowen and Rowley Regis and Stourbridge all went to the Tories.

TOTAL SUPPLIES

The BEST trade/DIY prices in town

on

Kitchens • Bathrooms



Visit our showroom for our FREE no obligation quotation and design service

Also available in STOCK

• Fascias soffits • Guttering • Drainage • Plumbing • Windows Doors and Conservatories • Waste • Water Service • Internal Cladding • SILICONS • CASTINGS • ANCILLARIES

Unit 1, City estate, Corngreaves Road
Cradley Heath B64 7EP Tel: 01384 573903

Open
Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm
Sat 8am - 12 noon



star extra TRAVEL

For brochures please call the Promotions Team on (01902) 319999
(Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm) or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Bruges by Eurostar

Four days various departure dates 2015



PRICE FROM £289

There are few places left where you can totally switch off for a few days from the pressures of modern day living than Bruges. Its beauty and tranquillity is outstanding and the atmosphere of this perfectly preserved medieval town is totally unique.

Whether it's a stroll by one of the canals, sipping a coffee in the Old Market Square with the chimes ringing out from the belfry, or perhaps a gentle trip around the town by horse and carriage. Its serenity will captivate and it has something for all tastes.

A guided walk of this beautiful town will really show off its charm perfectly. Its streets are crammed with fascination and yet is so compact that the walking tour emphasises the main sites and attractions beautifully.

Climb the 366 steps of the belfry tower for breathtaking views, see the City Hall, the old Law Courts and the Basilica of the Holy Blood in which is housed some of Jesus' blood. Another must is the Notre Dame Church where Michelangelo's beautiful Madonna and Child, carved in pure white marble, is kept.

A chance to visit Ypres, centre of British activity in Belgium during the war and home to the Menin Gate, the famous memorial to the missing soldiers is offered to those that are interested. This also includes a visit to Hill 62, more commonly known as Sanctuary Wood, to see some preserved trenches.

And of course, Bruges's chocolates are known throughout the world and a visit to an establishment which still makes them by traditional methods is included to demonstrate this delicious craft.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Return coach transfer overseas
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour of Bruges
- Visit to Ypres and a tour of the Battlefields of WW1 (upgrades offered)
- Chocolate making demonstration
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally
Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744)

Pick of the week

Christmas in Bournemouth

Five days departing December 23



PRICE FROM £399

- Return coach travel
- Four nights half-board accommodation
- Traditional Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day
- Entertainment programme
- Visits to Salisbury, Poole, Swanage and Winchester
- Tour of The New Forest National Park
- Free time in Bournemouth
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

New Year in Chester and Liverpool

Three days departing December 30



PRICE FROM £179

- Return coach travel
- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Three course evening meal on day one
- New Year's Eve Gala dinner and dancing
- Visits to Liverpool and Chester
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

New Year London Theatre

Three days departing December 30



PRICE FROM £249.⁹⁵

- Return coach travel
- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation at an outer London hotel
- Dinner and after dinner disco in the hotel on New Year's Eve
- Standard priced ticket for the evening performance of a choice of West End Shows on December 30 with coach transfer (ticket upgrades offered)
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

André Rieu and the Johann Strauss Orchestra in London

Two days departing December 20



PRICE FROM £185

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Seated ticket to see André Rieu and The Johann Strauss Orchestra at Wembley Arena (ticket upgrades offered)
- Return coach transfers between the hotel and Wembley Arena
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Butterflies and Orchids

Two days departing March 6



PRICE FROM £125

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to the Royal Botanical Kew Gardens
- Visit to RHS Wisley gardens
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Classical Spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing March 22



PRICE FROM £129

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Choir ticket for the Classical Spectacular concert (upgrades offered)
- Sightseeing tour of London
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Saturday Night Theatre by rail

Two days various departure dates



PRICE FROM £149.⁹⁵

- Return standard class rail travel to London (upgrade offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Ticket for the Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show
Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

Welsh Association of Male Voice Choirs at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing May 9



PRICE FROM £129

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation in an outer London hotel
- Circle seat for the concert (upgrades offered)
- Sightseeing tour of London
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Loire Valley and Monet's Garden by Eurostar

Six days various departure dates 2015



PRICE FROM £559

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Return coach transfer overseas
- Five nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Three dinners
- Visits to Claude Monet's house and garden; Chartres; Tours; Amboise and Leonardo da Vinci's house
- Explore the châteaux at Chinon, Chenonceau, Villandry and Fontainebleau
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally
Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744)

Venice Classic and undiscovered

Five days various departure dates 2015



PRICE FROM £499

- Return flights
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Walking tour of Venice
- Timed entrance to St Mark's Cathedral
- Entrance to the Doge's Palace
- Walking tour of undiscovered Venice
- Boat tour to Murano and glass making demonstration
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Hidden Portugal

Eight days various departure dates 2015



PRICE FROM £559

- Return flights
- Seven nights four-star half-board accommodation
- Full day visit to Oporto and a port wine lodge
- Guided visits to Viana do Castelo and Valença do Minho
- Visit to Ponte de Lima
- Explore the Vinho Verde vineyards
- Journey through Peneda-Gerês National Park
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Air Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)



Feel the noise at Slade convention

A CONVENTION for fans of Black Country rock legends Slade is being held in Bilston next spring.

Music venue The Robin 2 and the Slade Fan Club are staging the event on April 25 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the band's cult movie Slade In Flame.

The convention, which will include a showing of the film, will run from noon with an evening performance by tribute band Slyde.

Slade memorabilia will be on sale and there will also be a quiz and showing of rare videos of the band, which was led in its heyday by Noddy Holder.

All day tickets are £14 in advance and £15 on the day. Evening only is £9 in advance and £10 on the door.

Comic is top of charity variety bill

BLACK Country comic Doug Parker is the headline act at a charity variety show later this month.

BBC Radio WM's Jenny Wilkes is the guest compere at the Prince of Wales Centre in Cannock for the fundraiser on Tuesday, November 25.

It starts at 7.30pm and is in aid of the Black Country branch of the MS Society, one of the Mayor of Walsall Councillor Pete Smith's nominated charities.

Vocalists Nick De Jarr and Nicole will also perform.

Tickets are £10.50 and available from the Church Street theatre's box office on 01543 578762.

Liberty and death theme for opera season with passion

ONE of the world's most popular and passionate operas, Bizet's *Carmen*, is brought by Welsh National Opera to Birmingham Hippodrome next week.

Staged on Wednesday and Thursday, the story of a free spirit who would rather die than surrender her liberty will be conducted by James Southall.

Mezzo-soprano Alessandra Volpe will sing the title role of *Carmen* with Peter Wedd singing the role of Don Jose.

It will be sung in French with subtitles in English.

The battle cry is 'Liberty or Death' for WNO this autumn with a trio of operas exploring national and personal liberation.

Moses

Two new productions, Rossini's *William Tell* and *Moses in Egypt*, will explore the liberty of nations, while *Carmen* examines what it means to be a free woman.

A grand Biblical epic composed in Naples, *Moses in Egypt* was one of Rossini's early operas. This new production, staged on November 21, examines the Exodus story using powerful music and costumes inspired by the vibrant colours of artist Marc Chagall.

Hungarian bass-baritone Miklós Sebastyén will sing the role of Moses with Barry Banks singing the role of Aronne. Mezzo Soprano and

By Leon Burakowski

former BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist Christine Rice will sing the role of Amaltea.

Rossini's *William Tell*, being staged on November 22, is an epic political and romantic work. Rossini's last opera, *William Tell* is the story of the Swiss struggle for independence against Austria. The role of William Tell will be sung by David Kempster.

As well as uplifting music, *William Tell* will feature striking sets designed by Raimund Bauer, spectacular 19th century costumes designed by Marie-Jeanne Lecca and lavish dance sequences choreographed by Amir Hosseinpour.

The dream-like *Slava's Snowshow* continues at the Hippodrome until Sunday.

Pool cues replace swords in *Frantic Assembly's* modern, highly physical updating of Shakespeare's *Othello* at Birmingham Rep (Thursday) to Saturday.



Pan's people — Liam Hewitt, Ryan Harris, Maya Bowles, Abii Studwicke, Darci Dobson, Alex Clarke and Maison Kelley as the boy who could fly

Pan ready for flight of fancy

PETER Pan is making a flying visit to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

Bilston Operatic Society is preparing for its musical version of JM Barrie's much-loved tale of the boy who never grew up and his adventures in Neverland, facing Captain Hook and his crew of scurvy pirates.

Young actors will be fitted for a flying harness and have been learning moves on a flying rig that will be replicated for the show next week at the Lichfield Street venue.

The cast includes Abii Studwicke and Lucy Follows as Wendy, Alex Clarke and Ryan Harris as John, Liam Hewitt and Tom Horton as Michael, and Darci Dobson and Maya Bowles as Tinkerbell. In the title role, flying across the stage will be Maison Kelley.

Peter Pan runs from Tuesday to Saturday. Call the box office on 01902 429212 or go online to www.grandtheatre.co.uk

Hugh and Hazel are joining forces

TWO stars from the New Wave era are joining forces at Bilston venue The Robin 2 later this month.

Former frontman of The Stranglers Hugh Cornwell will be bringing his band for a joint concert with singer Hazel O'Connor, kicking off their tour at the Mount Pleasant venue on Tuesday, November 25.

Each will perform their own set, Cornwell performing Stranglers classics plus music from his latest album *Totem And Taboo*. O'Connor also has a new album, *Here She Comes*, and will play hits from the movie *Breaking Glass* including the classic *Will You*. She is joined by former Belle Stars saxophonist Clare Hirst. Tickets are £20 advance or £22 on the night. Call 01902 401211.

Singer is bringing blues back home

FORMER Black Country schoolgirl turned international blues star Joanne Shaw Taylor will be back in the West Midlands on Saturday.

Guitarist Joanne, who played her first gig as a 15-year-old at the original Robin R'n'B Club in Brierley Hill, will be performing at Birmingham Town Hall. She was voted Best British Female Vocalist at the British Blues Awards in 2010 and 2011.

Joanne, who has homes in Birmingham and Detroit, will perform songs from new album *The Dirty Truth* at the concert. Support from Bernie Marsden. Tickets are priced £17.50.

Chilli Buffet

YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD OF CUISINE

FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER **80'S TRIBUTE**
FROM 8pm ONWARDS free entry for all dinners

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET (GRANDMA TOO)

TEPPANYAKI PERFORMER

SELECTION OF FRESH MEATS

LIVE GRILL CHEF

BEEF LAMB N' PORK STEAKS

CHINESE, JAPANESE, ENGLISH

MEDITERRANEAN

ITALIAN, MEXICAN, INDIAN

TRIBUTES EVERY FRIDAY TILL CHRISTMAS

BOOK YOUR TABLE TODAY
0121 544 0000

4 FOR THE PRICE OF 3
EXCLUDES DRINKS AND CHILDREN'S MEALS FOR THIS FRIDAY ONLY

999 Wolverhampton Road
Oldbury
Birmingham B69 4RJ
Next to Toys R Us and McDonalds

Bookings now being taken for Christmas Parties

WEEKDAY DINNER £9.99
WEEKEND DINNER £11.99
SUNDAY DINNER £10.99

Great Bar...Great Food...Great Entertainment...

Knights Quest

FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER
RECOVERED

SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
CENTRAL RESERVATION

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER
STARMAKERS SUNDAY NIGHT KARAOKE PARTY

MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER
FUN QUIZ & KARAOKE

TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
PREDATORS TUESDAY NIGHT DISCO

WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER
'OUR GAZ'

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
STARMAKERS KARAOKE

DAILY CARVERY Only **£3.45**
Mon-Thurs: 12.00-2.30pm, 6-8pm | Fri-Sat 12.00-2.30pm

We also serve **GREAT STEAK & GRILL DEALS**

SUNDAY CARVERY Only **£4.95**
12 noon-5 pm

DRESS CODE... Dress to Impress!

"It's Great Down the Pub!"
High Street, Blackheath
Tel: 0121 561 5599
We serve until 1am on Sundays, Midnight Monday-Wednesday, 1am Thursday, 2am Friday & Saturday
DOORS CLOSE 11.00 pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun

Find us at www.theknightsquest.co.uk

CHOICE



Jack Donnelly

Atlantis (BBC1, 8.30pm)

New series. The fantasy drama is back and much has changed in the year since the death of King Minos. His daughter Ariadne is on the throne and at war with her former stepmother Pasiphae in a bloody and brutal battle for power. As the kingdom stands on the brink of collapse, there is only one person the young queen dare turn to for help – Jason. The time has come for the warrior to fulfil his destiny. Jack Donnelly stars, with Mark Addy, Aiysha Hart, Sarah Parish, Vincent Regan, Amy Manson, Peter De Jersey, Josef Altin, Thomas Coombes, Steven Cree, Ian Drysdale and Robert Emmis.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Rugby League: Four Nations Final Highlights. **2.00** Live International Rugby Union. Wales v Fiji (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Children in Need: The Best Bits. **5.50** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

6.10 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong invites TV stars Vanessa Feltz, Penny Smith, Kriss Akabusi, Roger Black, Keith Chegwin, Andrew Castle, Louie Spence and Carol McGiffin to compete.

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing. Tess Daly, Claudia Winkleman and the Strictly entourage head to Blackpool's world-famous Tower Ballroom, the spiritual home of dancing, for this week's edition. Over the years its elegant surroundings have been host to thousands of amateur and professional dancers – and tonight the tradition continues as the nine celebrity hoopers and their partners battle to get their names at the top of the leaderboard and avoid the fate of last week's eliminated couple. As they perform a mixture of routines, they'll be hoping to impress judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Dorey Bussell, but they'll also need viewers' votes to keep them out of tomorrow's dreaded dance-off.

8.30 Atlantis. New series. The fantasy drama returns, with Queen Ariadne caught up in a war with former stepmother Pasiphae. As the kingdom stands on the brink of collapse, Jason is her only hope.

9.15 Casualty. A patient with serious facial injuries refuses to admit to staff how they were caused, while a suspicious death leads Lily on a murder mystery.

10.05 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin is joined by singer Donny Osmond as she reveals the numbers for the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

10.15 BBC News: Weather.

10.35 Mrs Brown's Boys. Brendan Carroll stars. (R)

11.05 Jack Whitehall Live: National Lottery Update.

12.05 EastEnders. (R) **1.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.40** BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Film: My Forbidden Past. (1951)

7.15 Rugby League: Four Nations. **10.00** The Life of Birds. (R) **10.50** Animal Park. (R) **11.20** Coast. **12.00** Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey. (R) **1.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Live Tennis: ATP World Four Finals. The opening singles semi-final at the O2 in London. **5.00** Live International Rugby Union. Scotland v New Zealand (Kick-off 5.30pm).

7.30 Flog It! Trade Secrets. Paul Martin and the team give advice on collecting items that commemorate people or events, and Michael Baggott digs out a special set of paper plates.

8.00 Perry and Croft: Made in Britain. New series. A celebration of comedy writing duo David Croft and Jimmy Perry, examining how their work can be viewed as unique chronicle of the UK in the 20th century.

8.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring and the platoon are asked to provide a guard of honour for a train carrying George VI passing through Walmington-on-Sea, but another locomotive confounds their plans. (R)

9.00 QI XL. The Rev Richard Coles, Sarah Millican, David Mitchell and Alan Davies answer questions about jobs.

9.45 War of Words: Soldier-Poets of the Somme. The Battle of the Somme in 1916 is one of the most well-known battles of the First World War, remembered for its bloodshed and its limited territorial gains, and more writers and poets fought in it than in any other battle in history. Michael Sheen narrates this documentary, which details the experiences of authors including Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Graves, David Jones, Isaac Rosenberg and JRR Tolkien, looking at how their writing was informed and transformed by the conflict. The film uses animation, documentary accounts, surviving artefacts and battalion war diaries to reconnect the literature to the events and landscape that inspired it.

11.15 TOTP2. Mark Radcliffe introduces archive performances by Fine Young Cannibals, Badfinger, Kriss Kross, Elvis Costello, Luisa Sobral and Dymidi Lauper. (R)

12.15 Film: Down Terrace. (2009) **1.45** Film: Undertow. (2009) **3.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.35** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** The Munch Box. **9.25** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **10.25** Murder: She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News: Weather. **11.30** Storage Hoarders. (R) **12.30** Surprise Surprise. (R) **1.30** Faith in the Future. (R) **2.00** Doc Martin. (R) **3.05** Keep It in the Family. (R) **4.05** Regional Programme : Weather. **4.15** ITV News: Weather. **4.30** Live International Football. England v Slovenia (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.15 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Radio 2 DJ Jo Whitley, Benidorm barman Jake Canuso, Law & Order: UK's Georgia Taylor and comedian Marcus Brigstocke compete to win thousands of pounds for charity by taking on one of the show's resident trivia experts in a test of their general knowledge. However, they must work as a team to build their prize pot and stay one step ahead of the Chaser.

8.15 The X Factor. The remaining acts get into the swing of things for the return of Big Dan week. Battling to win praise from the judges and viewers' votes, they'll be hoping to sound better than ever with the support of live musicians, as they take on old classics and give modern pop songs a jazz twist. Dermot O'Leary provides a friendly face on stage as Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Mel B and Louis Walsh give their verdicts.

9.55 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host chats to actress Carey Mulligan, chef Gordon Ramsay, opera singer Katherine Jenkins and comedy legend Michael Palin. Music comes courtesy of rock band Kasabian.

10.55 ITV News: Weather.

11.10 International Football Highlights. England v Slovenia. Action from the Euro 2016 Group E qualifier at Wembley Stadium, where the hosts were looking to secure a fourth successive victory.

12.10 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 NFL: Rush Zone. **6.30** Trans World Sport. **7.25** River Rat Race Stockton. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** Weekend Kitchen. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Cheltenham and Wetherby. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.35** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.05 Come Dine with Me. All-American mother Natasha Ingham hosts the final dinner party from Lincolnshire, hoping to impress her guests with a dish entitled "fall off your horse black bottom pie". (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Speed with Guy Martin. The motorcycle racer makes a bold attempt to set a world speed record for a hovercraft, knowing that at speeds of more than 86mph, even the most experienced pilots can lose control. (R)

8.00 Walking Through History: Nazi Occupation – Channel Islands. Tony Robinson heads to Guernsey and Jersey to tell the story of the islands' surrender to the Nazis during the Second World War. In Guernsey, he hears of the first bombing raid that heralded the German troops' arrival and sees the spot where the first-ever British commando landed in secret, only to see the planned revenge raid fail spectacularly. A ferry then takes him on to Jersey, where he finds almost all of its beaches have a bunker or a machine gun post left over from the conflict.

9.00 It Was Airlight in the 1970s. Part one of two. Matt Lucas narrates a look back at the decade's TV shows, beginning with themes of pleasure and leisure, including outrageous adult jokes in pre-watershed sitcoms.

10.00 Film: Chronicle. (2012) Premiere. Three teenagers develop superhuman abilities, but one of them is corrupted by his new power. Sci-fi thriller, starring Dane DeHaan and Michael B Jordan.

11.40 Film: Max Payne. (2008) Action thriller, starring Mark Wahlberg.

1.30 Film: Shell. (2012) **3.05** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.15** Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.15** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.50** Access. **9.55** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **10.55** Alex Polizzi's Secret Italy. (R) **11.55** Film: The Christmas Heart. (2012) Drama, starring Teri Polo. **1.40** Film: Help for Christmas. (2012) Fantasy, starring Summer Glau. **3.20** Film: Christmas Mail. (2010) Festive romantic comedy, starring Ashley Scott and AJ Buckley. **5.10** Film: A Grandpa for Christmas. (2007) Family comedy, starring Ernest Borgnine.

6.55 5 News Weekend.

7.00 Film: Battle of Britain. (1969) In 1940, the Luftwaffe launches a campaign of aerial attacks against Britain to gain control of the skies ahead of a planned land invasion. Under the leadership of Air Chief Marshal Hugh Dowding, the RAF mounts a determined defence over the summer and autumn, despite being heavily outnumbered and forced to match inexperienced pilots against German veterans. Second World War drama, starring Laurence Olivier, Michael Caine, Robert Shaw, Christopher Plummer, Harry Andrews, Trevor Howard and Curt Jurgens. Edited for violence and language.

9.35 Film: The Wild Geese. (1978) A corporation hoping to bring about the downfall of an African dictator hires a group of British mercenaries to free a political prisoner dangerous to the regime. However, when the company changes its plans and makes a deal with the tyrant, the soldiers and the man they have saved are left surrounded by hostile military forces with no escape route. Action adventure, starring Richard Burton, Roger Moore, Richard Harris and Hardy Kruger.

12.15 Gotham. Gordon and Bullock search for a man distributing vials of a drug that makes users super-strong, while Bruce tries to establish Wayne Enterprises' role in the Arkham project. (R) **1.10** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** The Gadget Show. Jon Bentley examines the best deals available for home TV, phone and broadband, and Jason Bradbury tests an underwater jetpack in one of the world's deepest swimming pools. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. A cluttered house in Cradley Heath, West Midlands. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 World's Craziest Fools **7.30** International Rugby Union **8.30** Top Gear **9.15** Sherlock **10.50** Family Guy **1.25** Life Is Toff **1.55** The Revolution Will Be Televised **2.25** Sweat the Small Stuff **2.55** Snow, Sex and Suspicious Parents **3.55** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Swarm: Nature's Incredible Invasions **8.00** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.35** Krakatoa Revealed **11.25** Swarm: Nature's Incredible Invasions **12.25** Guitar Heroes at the BBC **1.25** Deep Purple – Made in Japan **2.25** Sounds of the Eighties **3.00** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **4.00** Close

ITV2

11.15 You've Been Framed! **12.15** Film: Twister (1996) **2.30** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **3.35** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **4.35** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **5.45** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **7.40** Film: Dungeons and Dragons (2000) **9.55** The Xtra Factor **10.55** Celebrity Juice **11.40** The X Factor **1.15** The Xtra Factor **2.10** Fake Reaction **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

1.00 Film: Columbo: Murder with Too Many Notes (2000) **2.55** A Touch of Frost **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** A Touch of Frost **12.45** Bomb Girls **1.30** World Kitchen **1.55** Movies Now **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.00 World Rally Championship Highlights **11.25** GT Academy **12.00** The Professionals **1.05** Film: Billion Dollar Brain (1967) **3.15** Alias Smith and Jones **5.55** Film: The War Wagon (1967) **8.00** Storage Wars **9.00** Film: Never Say Never Again (1983) **11.45** Film: Klitschko (2011) **2.00** The Professionals **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

54

11.00 Melissa & Joey **1.00** Made in Chelsea **2.00** Film: Space Chimps (2008) **3.45** Rude! (sh) Tube Shorts **4.00** Melissa & Joey **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Make & Other Drugs (2010) **11.15** Rude Tube **12.20** The Inbetweeners **1.30** How I Met Your Mother **2.25** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.55** The 100 **4.40** Make It or Break It

Film4

11.00 Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **1.00** Hairspray (2007) **3.25** The War of the Worlds (1953) **5.10** Dark Star (1974) **6.50** The Time Traveler's Wife (2009) **9.00** Zombieland (2009) **10.45** Attack the Block (2011) **12.30** Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale (2010) **2.10** Re-Animator (1985) **4.00** Close

Express & Star

Reader Offer

Letters from Father Christmas

Christmas is the most magical time of year, so deliver some of that magic to someone you love this year!

Imagine the look of delight on your little one's face when they receive their very own personalised letter from Father Christmas!

For just £4.99 they will receive:

- a personalised letter
- good behaviour certificate
- festive colouring picture
- a 'Stop Here' door hanger
- all sent in a Christmas themed envelope

ALL orders received on or before the 10th November will be sent out on Monday 1st December. All orders thereafter will be posted within 48 hours of receipt, until the 10th of December.

This is how you buy

Buy online at www.personalchristmasletters.co.uk and enter **EXPL4** in the box "where did you hear about us"

Complete the form below and post to:
Personal Christmas Letters, PO Box 145, Bourne PE10 1DU.
Enclose your cheque for **£4.99** per child made payable to **Personal Christmas Letters**

(Please complete in CAPSULES & continue order on a separate sheet if required)

Child's name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Sender's name: _____

Phone / Email (should we need to contact you): _____

REF : EXPL4

The publishers of this newspaper may contact you regarding relevant offers and competitions. If you do not wish to receive this information please tick []

If you do not wish to receive any further information from Personal Christmas Letters please tick []

www.personalchristmasletters.co.uk

Short breaks, holidays and long haul adventures to destinations near and far

...by coach, rail, Eurostar, self-drive and air

star★extraTRAVEL

See us online at: www.expressandstar.com/starextratrans

Brought to you by the **Express & Star**

CHOICE



Ant and Dec

I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! (ITV, 9pm)
New series. A fresh batch of famous faces wave goodbye to their lives of luxury and set up camp in the Australian wilderness for up to three weeks, battling bugs and Bushtucker Trials, rations and rain, and heat and hunger, all in the name of entertainment. As ever, there are plenty of rumours about this year's line-up, with soon-to-be former Hollyoaks star Gemma Merna, Georgie Shore's Vicky Pattinson and Katie Price's cage-fighting ex Alex Reid among those tipped to be competing for the jungle crown. Ant and Dec follow the daily drama.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.45** Gareth's All Star Choir. (R) **2.45** Gareth's All Star Choir. (R) **3.45** Points of View. **4.00** LifeLine. **4.10** Songs of Praise. **4.45** Life Story. (R) **5.45** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **6.15** **Countryside.** Ellie Harrison visits Acton Scott, a working farm steeped in the ways of the past, to try her hand at some of the traditional skills people still practise today, including blacksmithing and making a cob oven with a group of children as they learn this skill. She also looks back through the Countryside archive for other items about the crafts of the countryside, including Matt Baker learning about wheelwrighting and Helen Skelton making rakes. **7.15** **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkelman are at Blackpool Tower Ballroom to reveal which pairs are in the dance-off, with performances by Shirley Bassey and McBusted. **8.00** **Film: War Horse.** (2011) Premiere. A farmer's son forms a close bond with a horse he trains, but is forced to give the animal up when it is sold to the British army during the First World War. The horse passes through various owners on both sides as he travels across the battlefields of France, while the boy refuses to give up on being reunited. Steven Spielberg's drama based on Michael Morpurgo's book, starring Jeremy Irvine and Tom Hiddleston. **10.15** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **10.45** **Michael McIntyre's Showtime.** Stand-up comedy performed at the O2 in London during his 10-night run in 2012, featuring stories about a horrific trip to the dentist and watching his wife get undressed. (R) **11.45** **The Apprentice.** The entrepreneurs devise and sell their own board games, with one team coming up with a globetrotting game for the family and the other choosing something a little more risqué. (R) **12.45** **Film: Repo Chick.** (2009) **2.10** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **6.30** Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.30** Countryside. (R) **8.40** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **11.45** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.30** Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey. (R) **1.30** International Rugby Union. **2.25** **Film: Up Periscope.** (1959) **4.15** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **5.00** Flog It! **6.00** **Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals.** Coverage of the singles final of the season-ending competition from the O2 in London, where Novak Djokovic has been victorious for the last two years. Coverage continues on BBC3. **7.00** **Human Universe.** Professor Brian Cox examines what the future holds for humanity, heading to Florida to learn about efforts to protect Earth from potential catastrophic events. Last in the series. (R) **8.00** **The Mekong River with Sue Perkins.** The comedienne witnesses how deforestation and wildlife crime are stripping Cambodia of its last wild places, and spends time with the women of the Krung tribe. **9.00** **World's Greatest Food Markets.** New series. Billingsgate fish merchant Roger Barton visits food markets around the globe, beginning at the New Fulton Fish Market in the Bronx, New York City. **10.00** **Russell Howard's Good News.** The comedian offers his perspective on stories dominating the media, whether on television, online or in print, and he is joined by a guest with an amazing tale to tell. (R) **10.30** **The Wrong Mans.** A case of mistaken identity catapults two council employees into the middle of a deadly criminal conspiracy. Comedy thriller, with James Corden and Matthew Baynton. (R) **11.00** **The Wrong Mans.** Sam and Phil try to rescue Mr Stevens' wife. (R) **11.30** **Film: Regeneration.** (1997) A psychiatrist helping traumatised soldiers return to duty during the First World War treats poet Siegfried Sassoon. Drama, starring Jonathan Pryce. **1.20** Sign Zone: Countryside. (R) **2.35** Holby City. (R) **3.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.35** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Big Time Rush. **9.00** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News: Weather. **11.35** **Film: Carry On Cowboy.** (1966) **1.25** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **2.10** The Unforgettable Benny Hill. (R) **2.50** The X Factor. (R) **4.25** Down to Abbey. (R) **6.00** **You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill reveals what David Cameron gets up to behind the bins at Chequers, and why Lorraine Kelly is now testing Ross King's thongs. (R) **6.30** **Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.45** **ITV News:** Weather. **7.00** **Keep It in the Family.** Coronation Street stars Kym Marsh, Samia Ghadie, Antony Cotton, Brooke Vincent, Mikey North and Bruno Langley help contestants win big prizes. Bradley Walsh hosts. **8.00** **The X Factor Results.** Dermot O'Leary reveals who is safe and who has scored the lowest number of votes. **9.00** **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!** New series. A fresh batch of famous faces wave goodbye to their lives of luxury and set up camp in the Australian wilderness for up to three weeks, battling bugs and Bushtucker Trials, rations and rain, and heat and hunger, all in the name of entertainment. As ever, there are plenty of rumours about this year's line-up, with soon-to-be former Hollyoaks star Gemma Merna, Georgie Shore's Vicky Pattinson and Katie Price's cage-fighting ex Alex Reid among those tipped to be competing for the jungle crown. **10.40** **ITV News:** Weather. **10.55** **Broadroom.** Part two of two. The stories of patients who are preparing to move out of the psychiatric hospital into medium secure units – the first step on the road to rejoining the community. (R) **11.55** **Premiership Rugby Union.** **12.50** The Store. **2.20** Motorsport UK. **3.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **4.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 NFL: The American Football Show. (R) **7.05** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.30** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Jamie's Comfort Food. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. **1.20** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Cheltenham and Fontwell. **3.40** **Film: 17 Again.** (2009) Comedy, starring Matthew Perry and Zac Efron. **5.45** **Film: Mirror Mirror.** (2012) Fantasy, starring Lily Roberts. **6.00** **Channel 4 News.** **8.00** **Speed with Guy Martin.** The motorbike fan takes on the challenge of building the world's fastest soapbox racer in an attempt to set a new speed record using just the pull of gravity and a tarmac road. To get to grips with going blisteringly fast on a public road, Guy tries his hand at street luge with former global champion Helene Schmitz, before joining his team of engineers to explore the science of rolling resistance and the importance of tyre pressure. Armed with what they believe to be the perfect formula, they produce a unique soapbox cart inspired by Mother Nature and, after training with the Team GB women's bobsled pair, confidence is high – but are disaster and mayhem just around the corner? Last in the series. **9.00** **Homeland.** Carrie challenges a resentful Fara to show more commitment to their work, and puts her operation in motion – but as events reach a crucial point, there's a shock in store. CIA drama, starring Claire Danes, Rupert Friend, Mandy Patinkin and Nazanin Bonadi. **10.00** **Micky Flanagan: Back in the Game.** The cockney comedian performs to his home crowd at London's Hackney Empire, regaling his audience with tales of middle age, marriage and a man's prerogative. (R) **11.40** **Alan Carr: Chatty Man.** The host is joined by Charlie Day and Jason Sudeikis, who star in Horrible Bosses 2, and comedian Russell Howard. Singer-songwriter Lorde performs Yellow Flicker Beat. **12.40** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.05** According to Jim. (R) **1.25** American Football Live. **4.45** NFL: Rush Zone. **5.10** SuperScrumpers. (R) **5.25** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **6.35** Seaside Antics. **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.55** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.05** Only the Little White Van. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. **7.45** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Wanda and the Alien. **8.35** Zack and Quack. **8.50** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.05** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.20** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.55** Access. (R) **10.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.10** **Film: The Good Witch's Charm.** (2012) Drama sequel, starring Catherine Bell. **1.55** **Film: A Star for Christmas.** (2012) Festive drama, starring Briana Evigan. **3.40** **Film: Farewell Mr Kringle.** (2010) Christmas drama, with Christine Taylor. **5.25** **Film: Dumb and Dumber.** (1994) Comedy, starring Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels. **7.30** **5 News Weekend.** **7.40** **Film: Superman II.** (1980) The Man of Steel meets his match in the form of three fugitive villains from his home planet of Krypton. Flying down to Earth, the super-powered trio unleash a reign of terror in a bid to take over the world – but Superman is not there to stop them, having surrendered his powers to lead a normal life with his beloved Lois Lane. Comic-strip adventure sequel, with Christopher Reeve, Gene Hackman, Terence Stamp and Margot Kidder. Edited for violence and language. **10.00** **Film: Conan the Barbarian.** (2011) A warrior seeks revenge on the warlord who killed his father, and tries to stop him magically making himself all-powerful. Fantasy adventure, with Jason Momoa and Stephen Lang. **12.15** **Film: Chaos.** (2005) A veteran cop and his inexperienced new partner take on the mysterious criminal masterminding a series of hi-tech heists. Crime thriller, starring Jason Statham and Wesley Snipes. **2.05** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** **Mysteries of the Bermuda Triangle.** An analysis of stories linked to the region in the north Atlantic. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. The singles final at the O2 in London. **9.00** Snow, Sex and Suspicious Parents **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Life Is Toff **11.15** **Film: Face/Off** (1997) **1.25** Sweat the Small Stuff **1.55** People Like Us **2.55** The Revolution Will Be Televised **3.25** Life Is Toff **3.55** Close
BBC Four
7.00 The Great War **7.40** Britain's Wild Places: The Sheep Beside the Seaside **8.00** Congo Calling: An African Orchestra in Britain **9.00** Rosetta: A Sky at Night Special **10.00** Pop Go the Sixties **10.15** Mark Lawson Talks to Michael Morpurgo **11.15** Johnny Cash: The Man, His World, His Music **12.15** Bob Harris: My Nashville **1.15** Brad Paisley and Friends **2.15** John Denver at Wembley Arena **2.55** Congo Calling: An African Orchestra in Britain **3.55** Close
ITV2
11.50 The X Factor **1.25** The Xtra Factor **2.30** **Film: Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home** (1995) **4.25** **Film: King Kong** (2005) **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** You've Been Framed! **10.30** McBusted: The Hot Desk **10.40** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **11.45** Educating Joey Essex: Reem Halloween **12.45** Two and a Half Men **1.30** Dads **1.55** The Vampire Diaries **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
11.55 Inspector Morse **2.00** Rosemary & Thyme **3.00** **Film: George and Mildred: The Movie** (1980) **4.55** **Film: Columbo: Any Old Port in a Storm** (1973) **6.55** Inspector Morse **9.00** Lewis **11.00** William and Mary **1.05** Wycliffe **2.00** Judge Judy **2.45** World Kitchen **3.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale
ITV4
11.25 World Rally Championship Highlights **12.00** **Film: Rooster Cogburn** (1975) **2.10** **Film: The War Wagon** (1967) **4.15** **Film: Cheyenne Autumn** (1964) **7.25** Live International Football: Italy v Croatia (Kick-off 7.45pm) **10.00** Storage Wars **10.30** International Football Highlights **12.00** Life of Ryan: Caretaker Manager **1.00** River Monsters **2.00** Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
12.30 Made in Chelsea **1.30** **Film: A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures** (2010) **3.15** Rudelish! Tube Show **3.20** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** **Film: Avatar** (2009) **11.10** The Inbetweeners **12.15** Drifters **12.50** Bad Robots **1.25** Rules of Engagement **2.25** The Cleveland Show **3.35** Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 The Rugrats Movie (1999) **1.00** Planet of the Apes (1968) **3.20** Titanic (1997) **7.05** Legend (1985) **9.00** Rise of the Planet of the Apes (2011) **11.05** Conan the Barbarian (1982) **1.40** House of Flying Daggers (2004) **4.00** Close



Stuart & Neil Hodgkins

WATCH REPAIRERS,
JEWELLERS & ENGRAVERS
IDEAL FOR WEDDING GIFTS
151 HIGH STREET,
BLACKHEATH B65 0EA
(Next to the new library)
TELEPHONE:
0121 559 7156

Davies Blinds

- Free Quotes
- Free Fitting
- Child Friendly Fittings
- Made to measure curtains
- 5 Year Guarantee

Autumn Sale
20% OFF ALL BLINDS
Limited time only

Call Today
0121 624 2053
07951 394056
www.daviesblinds.co.uk

Have You Been Injured in an Accident?
NOT your fault?
Your claim will be handled by friendly specialist solicitors who are local to you.

Middleton Dummer SOLICITORS
FREE HOME VISITS
0121 544 4788
Please contact:
Rob, Adam or Angela at
High Tree's House, 1-9 Pool Lane, Oldbury, Warrley, West Midlands B69 4QX

Bowkett's OF OLDBURY

Why Not Try Our Hot Food Counter.
B-B-Q food now in store

NOW TAKING CHRISTMAS ORDERS!
ALL FRESH EVERY DAY • OPEN 7 DAYS

686 Wolverhampton Road,
Oldbury, B68 8DB
0121 552 1210
www.bowkettsofoldbury.co.uk

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL

Place your items for sale with great offers from the Express & Star and reach over half a million people*.

We don't have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges or commission payments - just great service, great value for money enabling you to buy and sell locally.

Contact us today to place your advert

TELEPHONE - 01902 317878
ON LINE - www.expressandstar.com/bookanad
IN PERSON - At your local Express & Star office

*SOURCE: Jicreg 01.10.2012. Private advertisers only.

Buy Local, Sell Local **ClassifiedAds**

HOT DEAL

DEAL OF THE WEEK

2KW REMOTE CONTROL ELECTRIC FIRE & SURROUND
ONLY **£495**
6 Models to choose from

JUBILEE FIRES
High Street, Princes End, Tipton DY4 9JF
OPEN 7 DAYS: Mon, Tues, Wed 9am - 5pm | Thurs, Fri 10am - 6pm | Sun 10am - 3pm

CALL NOW 0121 557 3111
www.jubileefires.co.uk

MONDAY

Setup, Channel 5, 10.55pm

A criminal takes part in a profitable diamond heist, only to be betrayed by his partner in crime who makes off with the loot. The aggrieved thief swears revenge on his former friend, and seeks the aid of a powerful Mob boss in getting revenge and taking back his ill-gotten gains. Crime thriller, with Bruce Willis, Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson and Ryan Phillippe. (2011)

TUESDAY

The Painted Veil, BBC1, 11.50pm

An English doctor's wife in 1920s China has an affair with a politician. When her husband finds out, he plots revenge by forcing her to accompany him on a mercy mission to a remote disease-ravaged village – but the hardship of their journey gives them a new perspective on their relationship. Period drama based on W Somerset Maugham's novel, starring Edward Norton, Naomi Watts, Liev Schreiber and Toby Jones. (2006)



Daylight, Friday, ITV, 11.15pm

WEDNESDAY

Obsessed, BBC1, 11.35pm

An executive with a successful job and a happy family life finds his world crumbling around him when a temporary worker is assigned to his office. The new arrival becomes desperately fixated on him, going to desperate lengths to seduce him. When he rejects her, he and his wife find their lives in danger. Thriller, starring Idris Elba and Beyonce Knowles. (2009)

THURSDAY

Trading Christmas, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Lonely widow Emily and frustrated writer Charles arrange to swap houses for the Christmas holidays, so she can visit her daughter and he can get some peace and quiet to work. However, both find themselves having unexpected romances when his brother and her friend make surprise visits and find the wrong person at home. Comedy, starring Faith Ford. (2011)

FRIDAY

Daylight, ITV, 11.15pm

A devastating explosion in the New Jersey Tunnel causes a horrific pile-up, trapping a group of motorists underground. A former emergency worker witnesses the blast and heads in to guide the handful of survivors to safety before the waters of the Hudson river above them break through and flood the tunnel. Disaster movie, starring Sylvester Stallone. (1996)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Family matters to James as the search continues

James Nesbitt is hands down one of the best actors on television and has been for a while now.

Everything he puts his name to oozes quality and he has a range that takes some beating.

At a time when the idea of another legal, medical or police procedural drama makes us yawn, it can't be easy picking a credible role, but simply by being in *The Missing*, Nesbitt has made it fantastic television.

Of course, this particular drama is helped along no end by the fact that Nesbitt is joined by such a top-drawer cast, but Frances O'Connor, who plays Emily Hughes in the hard-hitting drama, couldn't speak more highly of her co-star.

She explains: "I love acting with Jimmy because he just brings it! Every time you do a scene, he steps up and really gives it a hundred per cent for you. I love all the choices he makes, he's great. We've had to do some really tricky scenes but he's been very supportive."

O'Connor isn't exaggerating when

she talks of those tricky scenes. With such a sensitive subject matter – a little boy going missing while on holiday in France – it's little wonder the nation has taken this eight-part drama into their hearts, and O'Connor didn't need much time to think about signing up to the part.

"I just loved these scripts – I thought they were brilliant," she explains. "I was sent two and wanted to read more because they're just such great page-turners. The other great thing about the scripts is that the dialogue is so real and psychologically so true. So when you're acting, you feel it's really rock solid in terms of character and it's very easy to believe in the story."

She continues: "Because I'm a mother, I instantly related to the story. I did a bit of research about what it's like for people whose children have gone missing but really I just had to use my imagination. It's every parent's worst nightmare so I found it pretty easy to access the emotions for it."

The actress seems to be drawn to complex, thought-provoking dramas

– when we last saw her in *Mr Selfridge*, her character Rose had announced she was dying – but she insists that the tricky subject areas are all brilliantly dealt with here thanks to the writing.

She says of *The Missing*: "The storytelling is really clever and really sharp which you can feel when you're playing it. There are multiple strands to the story which are very cleverly interwoven."

We reach the halfway mark tonight, and Oliver's disappearance continues to take its toll on James and Frances' characters. As we pay a visit to 2006, the case is thrown into disarray by a murder, and Tony (Nesbitt) is left horrified when someone who he thought was his friend is revealed not to be the person they claimed to be.

In the present day, Julien (Tcheky Karyo) is on a mission to reinvestigate the links between the dead witness and Oliver's disappearance, while raking over the past starts to take its toll on Emily (O'Connor) and her relationship with Mark (Jason Fletmyng).



James Nesbitt heads the cast of *The Missing*, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

24 Hours in Police Custody Channel 4, 9pm

It's debatable whether this eye-opening series will have inspired many people to sign up to be a police officer, but it has shown the job is rarely dull – acting sergeant Wil Taylor describes his own typical shifts as 'unrelenting carnage'. It's easy to see why as in the last in the current series, he has to deal with crimes ranging from the theft of 98p's worth of a diet soft drink to joyriding in a 45-seater bus. But the most complicated case involves three police workers who were arrested during a raid on a brothel. The cops have to establish whether the women are victims of trafficking, or if they are the ones guilty of exploitation. Meanwhile, we also get an insight into Wil's own remarkable story, revealing that although he's gone from being a sports-mad law student to a double amputee police officer, he's always been driven by a need to see justice done.

Intruders BBC2, 9pm

When the first episode of this supernatural thriller aired a few weeks ago, many viewers were unsure what was most unsettling – the general air of doom, the challenge of working out what exactly was going on, or John Simm's American accent. But now we've had a chance to adjust, we're

starting to be gripped by this tale of former LA cop Jack Whelan (Simm) and his quest to find out what really happened to his wife Amy (Mira Sorvino).

This week, it looks like the detective (and the audience) may start to get some answers as Gary confesses he's a lot more clued up on Bill Anderson's murder and research than he previously admitted – and then reveals a startling connection between Amy and Rose. Meanwhile, Madison begins making sense of Marcus's memories, and Frank grows more concerned over Richard, but could soon have some even bigger worries.

TUESDAY

Madeleine McCann: A Global Obsession Channel 5, 7pm

In May 2007, three-year-old Madeleine McCann went missing in the Portuguese resort of Praia da Luz. In this documentary, journalist Martin Frizell – who broke the story in the UK on GMTV – analyses the unprecedented campaign run by Kate and Gerry McCann to keep their daughter in the public eye. He traces both the positive and negative reactions that this crusade evoked and hears from the father of a seven-year-old

boy who went missing in 2003, but quickly disappeared from the national news.

WEDNESDAY The Apprentice BBC1, 9pm

After a decade on the box, there was always a danger of this glorified job interview turning into a parody of itself. And that happened in no time, with comedians jumping at the chance of lampooning Alan Sugar and the endless supply of besuited, power-dressing wannabe apprentices. Little wonder the show runners wanted to shake things up a little this time, so the other week when Lord Sugar

fired not one but three contestants, Apprentice addicts were rocked to their core. So far in series 10, we've said goodbye to Chiles, Robert, Scott, Lindsay, Nurun, Steven, Sarah, Ella Jade and Jemma among others, so who knows how many will be kicked out in the latest edition?

THURSDAY

The Fall BBC2, 9pm

Jamie Dornan is a busy chap at the moment. As women around the world hold out for his much-anticipated performance as businessman Christian in *Fifty Shades of Grey*, we're lucky enough to be treated to his eerie portrayal of a serial killer in this Belfast-set Beeb drama in which he stars alongside Gillian Anderson. In tonight's instalment, his character Spector drives Rose Stagg away from her home in the middle of the night and warns her that he knows she went to the police. Rose going missing only serves to step up Gibson's headache a notch – she knows the pressure is now on her, as she is forced to face facts that it was her words that tipped Spector off about Rose.

FRIDAY

Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild Channel 5, 9pm

New series. The return of the programme in which Ben Fogle meets people who have moved to inhospitable parts of the world after leaving the rat race behind. He begins by travelling to the Namibian desert to spend time with 50-year-old Gideon David, who quit his career in life insurance to live in the largest conservation area in Africa.

The Fall, Thursday, BBC2, 9pm

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS DINNER NOW

**4 Course Meal
£29.99/Adult £14.99 Children**

15th Nov *The Remedy UK*
22nd Nov *Jonny Cole*
29th Nov *Ragged Old Rex*
30th Nov *The B's*
6th Dec *Planet Rock*
13th Dec *No Questions Asked*
20th Dec *Lawrence Lees*
26th Dec *The Empty Can*

CARVERY AVAILABLE
Monday - Saturday
Only £5
12-8pm

All you can eat
BREAKFAST
£5 8am - 11.30am
INCLUDING
TEA & COFFEE

Normal Menu Available 7 Days a Week

Christmas Fayre

available from November 15th

3 Courses from £10.99

SUNDAY CARVERY

12 noon-6 pm

£6.95 Adults | £4.50 Children

Attention Fishers, Golfers,
Car-Booters and Early Risers!!!

NOW OPEN
7am Weekends

THE BULLS HEAD

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Real Ales | Function Room | Live Entertainment | Families Welcome

Check out our other
offers on facebook.com/
thebullsheadgornal

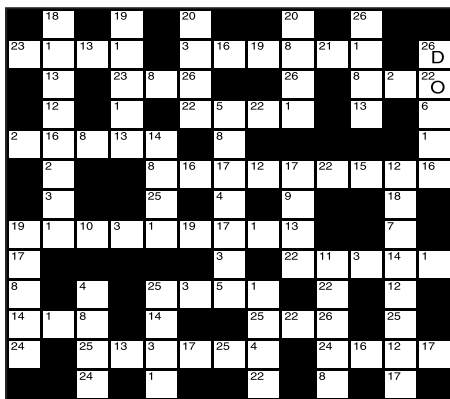


Himley Road, Dudley DY3 2TS Telephone: 01384 238885

20% OFF
your food bill
Name.....
DOB.....
Email.....
Expires 30/11/2014
Upon presentation and completion of this voucher.

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

A	K	C	I	G	J	D	T	U	Z	S	X	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
N	W	H	Y	O	R	L	M	P	Q	E	F	B

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

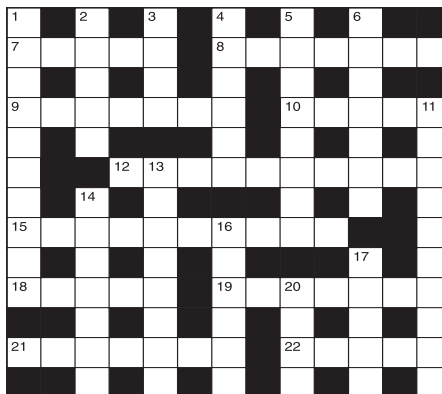
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- It's a chore producing pigment (5)
- Put clothes on again to put matters right (7)
- Arrived with many at King Arthur's seat (7)
- Groan about the gas (5)
- Sit to become a professor? (4,1,5)
- Is she unspeakably fair? (4,6)
- Towel thrown out for young bird (5)
- Suitor gets middle-headed about organised travel (7)
- Comply with 100 performing well (7)
- Explanation of superficial shine (5)

Down

- Make contact, then leave: it's critical (5-3-2)
- Mortify by writing bogus letter (5)
- Transaction in wood (4)
- Squirm at court order he produced (6)
- Made a loan at a higher level (8)
- He could turn out to be a genial big-head (7)
- A close shave for the illiberal spinster? (6,4)
- No one returns to the precincts to realise aspiration (8)
- A doctor catches fish at an easy pace (7)
- Note I'm being punctual (2,4)
- Turn four in the cooking vessel (5)
- Push into favour generally (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Perhaps (5)
- Faultless (7)
- Apart (7)
- Preclude (5)
- Pirate (10)
- Intentional (10)
- Send (5)
- Refined (7)
- Work (7)
- Wrong (5)

Down

- Envoy (10)
- Treacle (5)
- Repair (4)
- Thin (6)
- Erupt (5,3)
- Under (7)
- Wasteful (10)
- Refutation (8)
- Sleep (7)
- Rue (6)
- Deserve (5)
- Close (4)

Sudoku

			8			9		6
6				3		1	8	
	8	1	9	6				
1				8	7	2		9
			8			6		
	6			4	5			7
		9		7				1
5					3	7		

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	2	4	1	9	5	8	6	3
5	6	1	2	8	3	4	9	7
9	3	8	6	4	7	2	5	1
1	8	9	7	5	6	3	2	4
2	5	6	3	1	4	7	8	9
4	7	3	9	2	8	6	1	5
6	4	5	8	3	9	1	7	2
8	9	2	4	7	1	5	3	6
3	1	7	5	6	2	9	4	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Safety-net; 8 One; 9 Play the host; 11 Balance; 12 Avail; 13 Inured; 15 Asides; 17 Error; 18 Pontoon; 20 Emerald isle; 22 Bar; 23 These days. Down: 2 All; 3 Titan; 4 Nieces; 5 Trojans; 6 Lots and lots; 7 Deadly sin; 10 All quarters; 11 Bride-to-be; 14 Earnest; 16 Oplate; 19 Nudge; 21 Lay. QUICK - Across: 1 Boomerang; 8 Ewe; 9 Observation; 11 Extreme; 12 Poser; 13 Follied; 15 Keep on; 17 Caper; 18 Explore; 20 Annihilated; 22 Arc; 23 Stratagem. Down: 2 Orb; 3 Eerie; 4 Awaken; 5 Glimpse; 6 Lend support; 7 Deference; 10 Sets in place; 11 Effectual; 14 Errands; 16 Tether; 19 Pilot; 21 Eye.

Quiz

- To which family of birds does the bittern belong?
- In which religion is Brahma the creator god?
- Which architect laid out Covent Garden?
- What was the first major sound film?
- What do Americans call eggplant?
- Who played the sleuthing wife in the Thin Man films?
- Which ideal state is named from the Greek for 'no place'?
- Which river has Lake Tana as its source?
- Which French king was married to Marie Antoinette?
- Which organ is stimulated by the drug digitalis?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 1776; 2 Danny Blanchflower; 3 Pacific; 4 Roman Abramovich; 5 George V; 6 15; 7 Robin; 8 Holland; 9 Isle of Wight; 10 Fugue. Niner: COALMINER

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

9853 gives a bird,
4266 gives another bird,
151773 gives a monkey.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

star★extra TRAVEL London Theatre Breaks

Choose your show, price band* and how you want to travel

Rail inclusive breaks – Two or three days
Departures most weekends

Saturday Night Theatre from £149.⁹⁵

Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing.

Theatre Showstopper from £209.⁹⁵

This popular theatre package to the West End departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening.

Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade plus two nights stay at a four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply). Includes a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days
Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £139.⁹⁵

Dine and Dance from £149.⁹⁵

Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing.

For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and a disco (conditions apply). Or the Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options).

Pick-up points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability – supplements apply.

Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X)



For a theatre brochure please call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

Hicks Hadley

hickshadley.com
0121 585 6667

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



HALESOWEN, Longmoor Road£825 pcm - Fees
Large 3 bed midrow style semi-detached property features: 2 reception rooms, 2 double bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), 1 single bedroom, modern bathroom with L-shaped bath, garage, driveway parking for multiple vehicles, gas central heated and double glazed. Ideally located for Huntingtree and Lutley Primary School. EPC: TBC



NEW
STOURBRIDGE, Orwell Close£800 pcm - Fees
A well presented 3 bedroom semi detached home featuring kitchen/diner, lounge, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single, family bathroom with shower, garage and car port. This property is also double glazed and centrally heated (both as spec.) Viewings highly recommended. EPC: D



NEW
HALESOWEN, Newton Court£800 pcm - Fees
A recently converted 3 bedroom ground floor apartment finished to an extremely high standard and centrally located with commuter links to Halesowen and Birmingham. Featuring 2 double bedrooms, both with fitted wardrobes, 2 bathrooms, 1 single bedroom, 2 extra rooms downstairs, secondary glazing throughout. Allocated parking. Viewings recommended. EPC: C



BIRMINGHAM, Orion Building£775 pcm - Fees
1ST MONTHS RENT FREE. A fantastic opportunity to rent a fully furnished apartment in the heart of Birmingham City Centre. This 1 bed modern property overlooking the Mailbox features open plan living with luxury kitchen with 24 hour concierge service, secure parking, double glazed and electric heating. Viewings highly recommended. EPC: TBC



AMBLECOTE, 41a/b/c High Street£775 pcm - Fees
A fantastic opportunity to rent a new build home on a select development. Featuring homes of 3 generous size bedrooms (master with en-suite) finished to an exceptional standard. Featuring spacious lounge/dining areas, well appointed kitchens, downstairs WC, 3 bedrooms with family bathrooms & master bedroom with en-suite, 2 allocated parking spaces, front & rear gardens. These homes will not be available for long. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, The Rookery£640 pcm - Fees
Set in a lovely cul-de-sac and a highly sought after location. This 2 bedroom house features a modern fitted breakfast kitchen with appliances, great size lounge, double glazing, gas central heating, house bathroom with shower, driveway parking for 2 cars and a large rear garden. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Talbot Street£575 pcm - Fees
Step inside this fantastic 3 bedroom terrace property. Renovated throughout within the last 6 months to a very high standard, featuring 2 great size reception rooms, modern fitted kitchen, fully tiled bathroom with electric shower, gas central heating system. This property will not be available long. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Linnet Close£575 pcm - Fees
Desirable cul-de-sac location. Situated in a very popular area of the Lodgefield Estate with easy access for Halesowen and Cradley Heath, this unfurnished semi detached house features gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted breakfast kitchen with appliances, 2 bedrooms with 1 having wardrobes, modern bathroom with shower, front & rear gardens and driveway parking. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Hoosen Close£575 pcm - Fees
A delightful modern refurbished mid terraced house located within a desirable quiet cul de sac. Featuring a lovely refitted kitchen with electric oven/hob, fridge freezer and hotpoint washer/dryer. Gas central heating, large lounge with patio doors offering views across a mature herbaceous garden benefiting from a sunny aspect, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage, parking space. Close to bus links to Birmingham. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Haden Arch Court£575 pcm - Fees
Contemporary living in Halesowen. This 1st floor spacious apartment above the archway, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre and buses, the apartment features gas central heating, double glazing, open plan living room/fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with separate shower cubicle, allocated parking. EPC: B



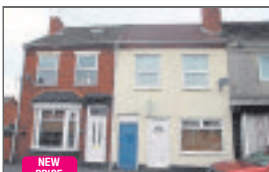
HALESOWEN, Olive Hill Road£550 pcm - Fees
This well presented 2 bed end terrace property features: 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 double bedrooms and family bathroom, double glazing and gas central heating. Ideal for Olive Lane Primary School and also within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre. Available early December. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Station Road£550 pcm - Fees
A newly decorated & carpeted 3 bedroom mid terraced house in this popular location minutes away from Old Hill train station. This spacious property has: 2 reception rooms, large lounge with patio doors offering views across a mature herbaceous garden benefiting from a sunny aspect, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage, parking space. Close to bus links to Birmingham. EPC: E



NEW
ROWLEY REGIS, Glaslyn Avenue£540 pcm - Fees
Immaculately presented modern 2 bed ground floor apartment within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre. This property features an open plan lounge/kitchen, family bathroom, master bedroom with fitted wardrobes and ensuite, allocated parking, double glazing and electric heating. Viewings highly recommended. EPC: D



NEW PRICE
CRADLEY HEATH, Wrights Lane£525 pcm - Fees
A well presented 2 bedroom terraced property currently being refurbished and comprising of: lounge, breakfast kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, within walking distance of Old Hill Train Station. Available now. EPC: E



NEW
WORDSLEY, Brook Street £525 pcm - Fees
An unfurnished end terraced house, refurbished and extended comprising of: gas central heating, double glazing, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 large bedrooms, bathroom with shower, driveway parking, rear garden. Available now. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Wright Street£525 pcm - Fees
Close to Halesowen Town Centre and Tenterfields Primary School. This end terraced home features gas central heating, cosy living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden, on road parking. Available now. Short term let for 6 months, possibly longer. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Sutherland Road£525 pcm - Fees
Close to Old Hill High Street this 2 bedroom semi detached family home features; fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, driveway and garage parking. This property is double glazed and gas central heated. EPC: TBC



OLDSWINFORD, Heath Lane£495 pcm - Fees
Ideally located in the centre of Oldswinford for shops, transport links and Mary Stevens Park. This large and spacious end terrace house features 3 good size bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, downstairs bathroom, fitted kitchen, enclosed rear garden and on road parking. EPC: TBC



NEW PRICE
HALESOWEN, Stour Court £475 pcm - Fees
1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! A great opportunity to rent this spacious and well proportioned ground floor apartment in a popular location. Large & airy living room, fully fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 double bedrooms, white bathroom suite with shower. Outside there is allocated parking and communal gardens. EPC: C



CRADLEY HEATH, Wycherley Way£475 pcm - Fees
A well presented unfurnished ground floor apartment briefly comprising: living room, 1 double bedroom with fitted wardrobes and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower. Benefits include gas central heating, double glazing, communal gardens, parking space. Close to local amenities. EPC: C



CRADLEY HEATH, Hingley Court£460 pcm - Fees
1ST MONTHS RENT FREE! Freshly redecorated and in the centre of Old Hill. This lovely ground floor apartment features an open plan lounge/kitchen with a washer/dryer and a small fridge, 2 large double bedrooms, modern bathroom with shower, 1 allocated parking space behind electric gates. Not to be missed. Available now. EPC: TBC

PROPERTY

Traditional semi that is close to Warley Woods



THIS well presented traditional three-bedroomed semi-detached home with double bay windows in Grafton Road, Oldbury is close to Barnford Hill Park and Brandhall golf course and Warley Woods.

It is for sale through Derek Spires at £149,950. With gas central heating and double glazing it has a porch, entrance hall, a lounge with laminate flooring, dining room, kitchen with a gas hob with extractor hood and oven and ceramic floor tiling, three bedrooms, fully tiled bathroom and a rear garden.

For further information contact Derek Spires & Co on 0121 4204646 or visit www.derekspiresandco.com



Allan Morris
estate agents

Eleven regional offices



BUILDING LAND MITTON STREET, STOURPORT

Development opportunity for
3 x Four Bedroom Houses;
4 x Two Bedroom Houses;
1 x Two Bedroom Flat
with courtyard parking
conveniently situated for all town
centre amenities.
Price excludes S.106
obligation in the sum of £50,534.

£220,000

Kidderminster 01562 747755

Bewdley 01299 400555

Stourport 01299 825522

allan-morris.co.uk



YOUR MOVE

The UK's most visited estate agency website*

www.your-move.co.uk



QUINTON

WORLDS END LANE

- Extended Semi Detached Property EPC Rating E
- Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen and Shower Room
- Four Bedrooms and Family Bathroom To The First Floor.
- Property Benefits From Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Garage, Driveway and Large Rear Garden

£249,950 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

RIDGACRE LANE

- Traditional Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Two Reception Rooms Fitted Kitchen Utility Room Grd Floor W/c
- Three Well Proportioned Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Side Garage Driveway Pleasant Rear Garden
- Internal Viewing Recommended To Appreciate Accommodation

£190,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

WILMINGTON ROAD

- Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property Awaiting EPC Rating
- Lounge Dining Room Conservatory and Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c
- Property Benefits a Gas Fired Central Heating System and Double Glazing
- Side Garage Driveway and Garden To The Rear

£189,950 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

MEADOW ROAD

- An Imposing Three Storey End Town House EPC Rating C
- Lounge, Conservatory, Kitchen and Cloaks W/c To Ground Floor
- Bedrooms Two and Three plus Family Bathroom W/c To The First Floor
- Master Bedroom With En-suite and Bedroom Four To The Second Floor
- Drive Providing Off Road Parking To The Front Garden To The Rear request

£177,500 QUINTON 0121 4217766



HALESOWEN

FAIRFIELD ROAD

- Traditional Semi Detached Property EPC Rating F
- Lounge Dining Room Kitchen Ground Floor Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms Separate W/c
- Benefiting From Gas Central Heating System and Double Glazing
- Driveway To The Front Garden To The Rear

£170,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

GRAYSWOOD PARK ROAD

- Traditional Semi Detached Property EPC Rating E
- Through Lounge Dining Room and Kitchen To The Ground Floor
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom and Separate W/c To The First Floor
- Side Garage Driveway and Rear Garden
- Property Benefits From Having No Upward Chain

EPC rating is Grade E - a copy of the full EPC will be available on request

£174,995 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY

STANLEY ROAD

- Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property EPC Rating E
- Lounge and Kitchen/Diner To The Ground Floor
- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom/W/c To The First Floor
- Property Benefits From A Gas Central Heating System and Double Glazing
- There Is A Drive To The Front and Garden To The Rear

£170,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY

WHEATLEY ROAD

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating C
- Lounge Kitchen and Cloakroom W/c To Ground Floor
- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To First Floor
- Gas Fired Central Heating System and Double Glazing
- Imprint Drive To The Front Garden To The Rear

£150,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

BROOKMANS AVENUE

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Through Lounge/Dining Room Kitchen Utility Cloakroom W/c
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Block Paved Drive To The Front Garden To The Rear
- Cul-de-sac Location Property Benefits From Having No Upward Chain

£140,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY

GROSVENOR ROAD

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Through Lounge Dining Room and Kitchen To Ground Floor
- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To First Floor
- Property Benefits From A Gas Fired Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Outside There Is A Garage A Driveway and Garden To The Rear

£135,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY

St KATHERINES ROAD

- Traditional Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Through Lounge Open Plan Kitchen/Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Garage Driveway Front and Rear Gardens
- Recently Refurbished Viewing Recommended No Upward Chain

Offers Over £135,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



ROWLEY REGIS

YORK ROAD

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Lounge Kitchen-Dining Room Utility Room Cloaks W/c
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Benefiting From A Gas Central Heating System and Double Glazing
- Garage Driveway Garden To The Rear

£122,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY / QUINTON BOR-

GUARDIAN HOUSE, HAGLEY

- Second Floor Retirement Apartment EPC Rating C
- Lounge Kitchen Bedroom Shower Room
- Security Gated Communal Parking Area To The Rear
- Benefits From Security Entry Phone System And Emergency Pull Chords
- Block Benefits From Having A Lift, Laundry Room and Communal Gardens

£54,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY/QUINTON BORDER

GUARDIAN HOUSE, HAGLEY

- Second Floor Retirement Apartment EPC Rating C
- Lounge Kitchen Bedroom Bathroom
- Property Is Fitted With Security Entry System and Emergency Pull Chords
- Complex Has A Lift Laundry Room Communal Gardens
- Security Gated Communal Parking Area To The Rear

£50,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



PUBLIC NOTICE

HURST GREEN ROAD

- 84 Hurst Green Road Halesowen B62 9QU We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £95,000. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place. Your-Move 536 Hagley Road West Quinton (Oldbury) 0121 421 7766. EPC Rating D

QUINTON 0121 4217766

15%^{*}
more

buyers this
year than last.
Helping people move.

For a FREE valuation contact
your local branch or visit
www.your-move.co.uk/valuation

*Based on buyers registered year to date versus the same time last year, August 2014.

MOSELEY



MAYFIELD ROAD

- Lounge/Dining Room Two Bedrooms Bathroom
- Communal Gardens Communal Parking Area
- Available From Mid October
- Viewing Recommended

£700 pcm QUINTON 0121 4217766

OLDBURY



FARLEY COURT OLDBURY ROAD

- Modern Ground Floor Apartment EPC Rating C
- Open Plan Lounge and Kitchen
- Double Bedroom Bathroom W/c
- Allocated Parking Area To Rear Of Block
- Viewing Recommended

£425 pcm QUINTON 0121 4217766

OLDBURY



SUNNYBANK ROAD

- Well maintained First Floor Maisonette EPC Rating F
- Lounge Fitted Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c
- Communal Gardens Parking Area
- Subject To Referencing Immediate Availability

£550 pcm QUINTON 0121 4217766

OLDBURY



WATERWAYS DRIVE

- Ground Floor Apartment EPC Rating E
- Open Plan Lounge and Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms Bathroom
- Non Allocated Parking Area
- Subject To Referencing Immediate Availability

£435 pcm QUINTON 0121 4217766

98%^{*}

of our financial services
customers would

recommend us
to their friends and family.
Thank you. Let us help you too.

Our initial mortgage consultation is free. We will charge a fee between £349 and £699 on application. The amount we will charge is dependent on the amount of research and administration required.

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE.

*Treating Customers Fairly questionnaire completed between Jul 2014 and Aug 2014 with all customers who purchased Financial Services products from Your Move.

sales

lettings

mortgages

Quinton

536 Hagley Road West, B68 0BZ © 0121 4217766



Meriva's appeal for family car buyers

By Anthony Martyn

It used to be so difficult. You wanted a vehicle with decent economy that could do the family duties, yet had something about it when you pressed the throttle pedal. Trying to square those requirements for a reasonable budget could tie even the most knowledgeable car enthusiast in knots.

These days things are a whole lot easier. If you want to know how easy, just go to a Vauxhall dealer and cajole them into lending you a Meriva 1.6 CDTi diesel. It's a car that's been steadily improved over the course of its lifetime, but replacing the old 1.7-litre diesel lump with a smaller but more modern, powerful and economical engine has given this particular Meriva real appeal for family buyers.

Developing a healthy 136PS, this Euro6-compliant motor serves up a super-sized 320Nm of torque at just 2,000rpm, which lends it a hugely muscular feel. In fact this Meriva will get to 62mph in just 9.9 seconds and Vauxhall has worked at improving the quality of the six-speed manual gearshift so that changes are slicker and gear engagement more reassuring. Refinement at speed is a notable strong point, with the engine only really becoming vocal at around 4,000rpm, at which point you will have probably upshifted anyway.

This facelifted second generation Meriva gets a revised grille, but the chrome accents that frame the front fog lamps aren't so obvious. The headlights now feature an 'eagle-eye' graphic. For the first time, LED daytime running lights and LED tail lights are available as an option. If you're in the mood to tick options boxes, you can also pay extra for some 18-inch alloy wheels.

The Meriva still differentiates itself from its many rivals via its rear-hinged back doors. The advantage of this design comes when entering and exiting the vehicle as the doors open to an angle of almost 90 degrees and you can step straight out unhindered. It also helps parents when they're strapping the kids in or fitting child car seats because there's no door in the way to manoeuvre around.

Plusher

The interior itself is based around the FlexSpace seating system which allows the rear seats to fold down and slide individually. Splitting the cabin on the plusher models is the FlexRail, a pair of metal runners between the front seats that various modular storage bins and arm-rests can be clipped to and slid along. It's all very clever but those who have a thing for plastics quality might feel that some parts of the Meriva's cabin – especially rearwards from the front seats – show clear signs of cost-cutting. Still, that's the case with many of its rivals.

Whereas you used to have legions of trim level variations to wade through, with this 1.6-litre CDTi, things are more straightforward. You either pay just over £19,000

and buy the S trim or you pay just over £21,000 and bag yourself the SE specification. The S isn't badly finished with an ESP-plus electronic stability control system, twin front airbags, an electric parking brake, a CD/MP3 CD player/stereo radio with USB and AUX-in socket, electric front windows, electrically adjustable and heated door mirrors, remote central deadlocking and front side airbags.

Go for the up-spec SE version and you'll find a panoramic glass sunroof, 17-inch alloy wheels, folding seatback trays and under-seat drawers, a trip computer, cruise control, curtain airbags, leather trim for the steering wheel and gear shifter and heating for both the seats and the wheel.

There are many MPV or SUV owners who have looked at the cost of petrol and diesel derivatives of the same car, done the calculations and decided that based on the amount of miles they do, they'd never justify the additional expense of the diesel variant. So they buy the petrol model and soon come to realise that the torque deficit you get with entry-level petrol engines requires you to flog them really hard to make progress. They look at their economy figures and then realise the error of their ways. They should have bought a car like this Meriva 1.6 CDTi.

Emissions are also kept well in check at just 116g/km which, like the economy figure, is even better than the lowly 1.3-litre CDTi diesel engine you can also have fitted in your Meriva.

Residual values ought to be strong as well, with many buyers being attracted to the Meriva range's best and most economical powerplant.



FINANCE MADE FLEXIBLE

ASTRA EXCITE

With alloy wheels, Bluetooth® connectivity, USB facility and LED daytime running lights as standard.

CORSA EXCITE

With Moroccan trim, alloy wheels, Bluetooth® connectivity and USB facility as standard.

£2,000
VAUXHALL DEPOSIT
CONTRIBUTION*



Available with up to 5 years

0% APR
REPRESENTATIVE
FLEXIBLE FINANCE*

**NO
DEPOSIT
REQUIRED BY YOU**

1 YEAR'S INSURANCE† ON CORSA EXCITE
21-75 yrs **FREE**, 18-20 yrs **ONLY £99**

Dudley Motor Company
West Midlands
01384 454100
T Wall Garages
Kingswinford
01384 288 333

Stourbridge Motor House
Stourbridge
01384 447 970
Halesowen Motor House
West Midlands
0121 462 2916



VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 12.7 (22.3) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 373 - 88g/km.*

*Available on selected models only, at participating Retailers. Conditional Sale. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance supplied by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. †£2,000 Vauxhall Deposit Contribution on Astra Excite. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. ‡First year insurance offer available on Corsa Excite only. All drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year. All policies are underwritten by Ageas Insurance Ltd. Other insurance specific Terms and Conditions apply. The offer will cover the full premium for drivers aged between 21-75 (motor policy only). Only available through Vauxhall Insurance. Drivers aged 18-20 will make a contribution of £99 to their premium and must agree to the fitting of a telematics box to the car: every 3 months, your policy will be reviewed and if you drive well, we will return part of this to you. The policy may be cancelled for consistently poor driving. Only available through ingenie. Offers available on orders or registrations between 8 October and 15 December 2014. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

Rapide a dream machine

By Matt Joy

You don't have to be selfish to drive an Aston Martin; the beautiful Rapide S allows you to take three friends with you in four-door coupe style. For 2014 Aston has tweaked the looks and the mechanicals to make this a 200mph dream machine.

As with most Aston Martins, there is much about the Rapide S that is reassuringly familiar. The DB9-based exterior is as beautiful as ever, but is distinct from that car on account of the bullish nose as well as the extra pair of doors.

Of greater significance is the adoption

of a new eight-speed automatic transmission which not only promises smoother shifts and the extra ratios but also a higher top speed; the Rapide S can now bust the 200mph barrier for the first time. The suspension has also been tweaked to improve the ride and handling and there are some new trim options too.

The Rapide S has the kind of looks to grab your attention whether you want it to or not; it has curves, grace and a swagger that is hard not to love, even if you're not the fortunate person behind the wheel. The changes to the 2014 version only go as far as some new colour options— notably Diavolo Red which was previously only available on the limited edition Zagato – and new ten-spoke alloy wheels.

It might seem incongruous to think of an Aston Martin as being practical, but the Rapide S is designed to carry four people and their luggage. If you're sitting in the front then getting comfortable is a cinch, with plenty of adjustment in the seats and good space.

In the rear space it is a little tighter, but unless you scale over 6ft tall the rear seats are cosy and cocooning. The boot space is useful too, with the ability to fold the rear seats and increase the space.

The things that haven't changed about the Rapide S are still brilliant, chiefly the sensational 6.0-litre V12 engine, but the new gearbox allows you to get the best from it. In automatic mode the shifts are smoother and faster, so you can ooze around town just using the mighty torque. A firmer squeeze and the Rapide S accelerates with ease, while you can switch to manual control of the gearbox to fully exploit the huge power reserves.

The Rapide S also manages to handle



'The Rapide S has the kind of looks to grab your attention whether you want it to or not; it has curves, grace and a swagger.'

like the sports car it is based on, despite being larger and heavier than the DB9. The steering is responsive but not too sharp, the ride controlled and the handling very reassuring for a car costing close to £150,000. It's a significant improvement on what was already excellent.

It's hard to make a case for the Rapide S being good value for money with a sticker price like that, but you certainly get a lot for your cash. Those sensational looks, the magnificent engine, the cabin swathed in fine leather and a kick-ass Bang & Olufsen

audio system. You can This is a car for the wealthy, no doubt, and although the well-heeled do tend to be fussy about what they buy it's safe to say they will be impressed by the Rapide S. A couple could use it as the ultimate GT with plenty of space for long weekends, while parents could complete the school run if they want to give their kids instant playground kudos.

This car summed up in a single word: Divine.

Aston Martin Rapide S 2015MY, £147,950.



SX4 S-CROSS

£15,499*

NOW WITH 3 YEARS' FREE SERVICING**

You name it, the SX4 S-Cross has it. A spacious cabin and bag-gobbling boot. The reassuring safety of ALLGRIP 4-wheel Drive¹. Even impressive fuel economy. Once you see it, you'll have to have it all.

HAVE TO have it.

Request a Test Drive today: suzuki.co.uk/halesowenmotorhouse

Halesowen Motor House

Dudley Road Halesowen B63 3NH 0121 503 0001

Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki SX4 S-Cross range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km): Urban 39.7-55.3 (7.1-5.1), Extra Urban 55.3-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 47.8-67.2 (5.9-4.2), CO₂ emissions 135-110 g/km.

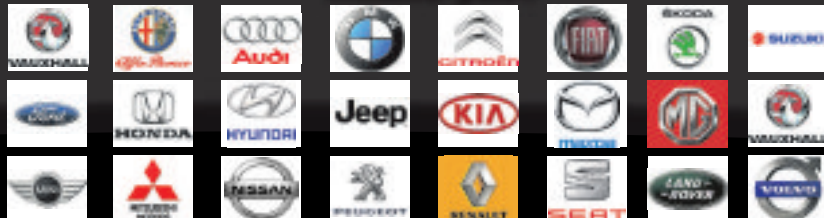
The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Model shown: SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ5 available at £20,249 on the road. SX4 S-Cross range - SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ3 Manual available at £15,499 to SX4 S-Cross 1.6 DDIS SZ5 ALLGRIP Manual available at £23,549. The features referred to in this advertisement and all specifications and equipment may vary depending on engine, transmission and model grade. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. On the road price valid from 1st October 2014 to 31st December 2014. Model shown - SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ5 Manual (metallic paint available at £430). For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st October 2014 to 31st December 2014 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. ¹ALLGRIP 4-wheel Drive is an optional extra on SZ-T & SZ5 models only. **Offer applies to private customers and the first registered vehicle only; 3 routine manufacturer services covering 3 years or 37,500 miles (whichever comes sooner) by Suzuki franchised dealers or service partners only. Terms & Conditions apply, see Suzuki.co.uk/cars/freeservicing for details. Offer available on registrations of Suzuki SX4 S-Cross between 1st October 2014 and 31st December 2014, subject to availability, at Suzuki franchised dealers based in the UK, Channel Islands, Shetland and Isle of Man only. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated.



Express & Star

VIRTUAL MOTORSHOW

Thousands have already flocked to the Show!
...have you?



Review your new car by video before you test drive!



DRIVING EXPERIENCE - COST OF OWNERSHIP - DESIGN & BUILD - RANGE

- Video reviews • Dealership information
- Latest manufacturer offers

expressandstar.com/drivetime

DRIVETIME



Helping motorists stay safe

With the clocks going back and the weather taking a turn for the wetter, local retailer, Stourbridge Motor House, is on hand to ensure drivers stay safe in dark, damp and wintry conditions.

The dealership on High Street is getting behind the Vauxhall Winter Safety Check campaign by offering Vauxhall owners a thorough safety inspection of their car ahead of the winter season.

The dealer is also reminding Vauxhall drivers of the free-to-join MasterFit Service Club, which offers considerable savings on repairs, servicing and MOTs.

Michael Casey, general manager at Stourbridge Motor House, explains: "Autumn and winter bring a wealth of

unpredictable weather conditions so it's important that cars are in a suitable condition to combat all that nature throws at them.

"Whether making a quick school run trip or driving further afield, there are potential hazards on every journey, so we're keen to ensure Vauxhall drivers in the area are set for safe winter travel."

Solution

For drivers who want to get their vehicle checked and prepared for the cold winter months, the Vauxhall Winter Safety Check is the ideal solution. It costs just £25 and features a 25-point visual health check of aspects such as wiper blades, lights and tyre pressure, plus, where necessary, top-ups of vital fluids such as coolant, brake fluid, screen wash and engine oil.

Customers booking a Winter Safe-

ty Check will drive away not only with peace of mind, but also a free Winter Survival pack worth £20.

The pack, which comes in a Vauxhall branded bag, contains Autoglym De-Icer, a wind-up torch, a foldable shovel, a high visibility jacket and ice scraper.

In addition to the Winter Safety Check, Stourbridge Motor House is also reminding drivers who own a Vauxhall vehicle aged over two years that they could save up to 25 per cent off servicing and repairs and get half price MOTs when they join the free Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club.

Michael Casey concludes: "The Vauxhall MasterFit Service Club is a great way for owners to take care of their car for less and be assured that their Vauxhall is in the best possible hands with the people who know it best."

£500 off This Christmas

Citroen:

61 C3 1.6 Exclusive Auto Red 1900 Miles	£8,495
61 C3 Picasso 1.6 Exclusive Silver 5k	£9,295
11 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Green 12k	£8,295
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ Black 20k	£10,795
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS Grey 21k	£10,995
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS Iceare 1800 Miles	£12,795
07 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTX Red 86k	£3,795

Ford

11 C-Max 1.6 TI-VCT Zetec White 34k	£8,995
09 C-Max 1.8 Zetec Black 61k	£5,995
61 Fiesta 1.2 Zetec Blue 5k	£8,995
60 Fiesta 1.2 Zetec White 12k	£8,295
11 Fiesta 1.4 Titanium Auto Vision Blue 24k	£8,295
59 Focus 1.6 Style Auto Estate Red 32k	£6,295
11 Focus 1.6 Zetec Black 20k	£9,495
10 Fusion 1.4 TDCI Zetec Grey 24k	£6,995

Renault:

60 Clio 1.5 DCI Dyn TomTom Est Grey 13k	£7,495
61 Gr Modus 1.5 DCI Dyn Silver 4k	£7,795
11 Gr Modus 1.6 Dyn Auto Silver 10k	£6,795
61 Gr Modus 1.6 Dynamique Auto 15k	£7,295
56 Scenic 1.6 Dynamique Gold 42k	£3,795

Vauxhall

07 Astra 1.8 Life Auto Blue 44k	£3,995
60 Corsa 1.2 Exclusive Silver 27k	£5,995
62 Corsa 1.2 SE Silver 14k	£8,495
60 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv Grey 27k	£6,495
11 Meriva 1.7 CDTI Exc Auto Blue 29k	£6,995
61 Meriva 1.7 CDTI Exc Auto Silver 19k	£7,795
11 Meriva 1.7 CDTI Exclusiv Grey 11k	£7,495
61 Meriva 1.7 CDTI SE Brown 35k	£7,995
11 Zafira 1.6 Exclusiv Red 31k	£7,795
11 Zafira 1.7 CDTI Exc Ultra Blue 25k	£8,795

Christmas Sale
£500 off

Nissan

61 Note 1.6 N-Tec Auto Blue 36k	£7,495
61 Note 1.6 N-Tec Auto Red 5k	£7,995
10 Note 1.6 Tekna Auto Blue 23k	£7,495
61 Note 1.6 Tekna Auto Caffé Latte 11k	£8,495
59 Qashqai 1.5 DCI Acenta Black 43k	£9,795
61 Qashqai 1.6 Acenta Black 11k	£11,995
61 Qashqai 1.6 Acenta Silver 13k	£11,795

Peugeot

61 308 1.6 HDI Access 5dr Grey 19k	£8,995
61 3008 1.6 HDI Active EGC Black 34k	£8,995
61 3008 1.6 HDI Sport Black 5k	£10,995
61 3008 1.6 HDI Sport Vapour Grey 17k	£10,495

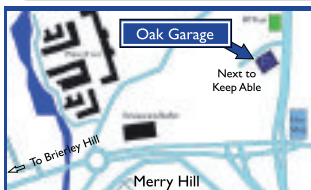
Specialists in Ex-Motability Vehicles

All Motability Vehicles are:

- Full Service History
- 1 Owner from New
- Guaranteed low Mileage

Other

12 Honda Jazz 1.3 I-Vtec EX Black 7k	£9,795
13 Hyundai I20 1.2 Active Grey 12k	£8,495
54 Jaguar X-Type 2.0 V6 Auto Silver	£1,995
12 Proton Satria 1.6 Neo GSX 3dr Orange 18k	£5,495
11 Seat Leon 1.6 TDI CR SE Auto Red 12k	£9,795
61 Skoda Roomster 1.2 TSI SE Auto Black 14k	£8,995
63 VW Golf 1.2 TSI 105 S DSG Silver 2k	£14,795
57 VW Jetta 2.0 TDI SE 140 Auto Blue	£4,995



OakGarage.co.uk

Tel: 01384 75097

Unit 1 - 2 Sterling Park, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, Dy5 1TB
Opening Times: Mon-Thur: 9-6, Fri-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 11-4



Halesowen Autos

Quality Used Cars At Great Prices

 £24995	 £4995 / £29 Per Week
 £6795 / £39 Per Week	 £4695 / £27 Per Week
 £6295 / £36 Per Week	 £4495 / £26 Per Week
 £5995 / £35 Per Week	 £4495 / £26 Per Week
 £5995 / £35 Per Week	 £4195 / £24 Per Week
 £5495 / £31 Per Week	 £3995 / £22 Per Week
 £5995 / £35 Per Week	 £3995 / £22 Per Week
 £5495 / £33 Per Week	 £3995 / £22 Per Week
 £4995 / £29 Per Week	 £3295 / £22 Per Week

Finance example: Kia Rio 3 1.5 CRDi Diesel, Cash Price 4995, Deposit 300, Amount of credit 4695, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 12% APR, 48 Payments of 122.28 (30.50 per week) Total amount payable 6169.44 (Excludes 150 Document fee and 150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

FINANCE AVAILABLE • PART EXCHANGE
WARRANTIES AVAILABLE • WE BUY CARS

1 CROSS STREET, HALESOWEN B63 4RT
Tel: 0121 501 3840
www.halesowenautos.co.uk

funeral directors

N.E.DOWNING
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent
family run
Funeral Directors

24 hour service
Halesowen
0121 422 2794

www.nedowning.co.uk

funeral services

BIRMINGHAM ST MARY'S
your hospice

Birmingham St Mary's Hospice
welcomes collections to
support our vital work.

All donations will help us to
care for more local families
living with terminal illness

For more information on how
to support your hospice,
please go to
www.birminghamhospice.org.uk
or call
0121 472 1191
Reg. charity number: 503456

1

Family

baby needs

QUINNY THREE wheeler buggy,
raincover and footmuff, excellent
condition, £90 ono. 07787 158397.

elderly & disabled

FOOT ABLE - Struggling to reach
your toe nails? Call for a home visit,
07846 326801 - NHS reg.

Free Ads

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items up to £250.
Online at
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

Free Ads

KINGSIZE Double electric bed, lifts
each side separately, like new
£250. 07506 660317.

MOBILITY SCOOTER Cameo 4
Shopper, new batteries, fits in
boot, rain cover, changes blue or
red, like new £325. 01902 659116.

MOBILITY SCOOTER, New batteries,
Four wheels. Easily fits in a car
boot. Very good condition. £280.
01384 82591.

MOBILITY SCOOTERS from £350
can deliver, servicing available.
Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384
250119 / 07831 246226

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS recondi-
tioned lifts from £799. Plus New
Lifts. 01952 405397/07897 273617

2

Leisure Time

boats & water sports

FLETCHER ARROW SPEEDBOAT
includes trailer. Currently moored
Staffs / Worcester Canal DY3.
Reasonable offers: 07745 025823.

caravans / motorhomes

A BEAUTIFUL PARK near Ludlow.
Immaculate caravans from £10,000.
Why go further? 01584 823433.

STATIC CARAVAN
WILLERBY GRANADA,
35x12, sleeps six good
condition, buyer moves off site
£3,000
01543 577385 or 07855
725169.

SECURE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME STORAGE AVAILABLE IN KIDDERMINSTER AREA

Reasonable rates
Call: 07943 512614

MANY EXTRAS

STATIC CARAVAN 1994
SEAFRONT AT TYWYN
Excellent condition, six berth,
master ensuite, price includes
all the fittings and many extras
including, all fittings, all
appliances fully kitted out,
ready to absolute bargain,
£7,000.
To arrange viewing
01939 200800.

SUPER BARGAIN

caravans wanted

ALL CARAVANS WANTED

Any Age or Condition
CASH
WAITING
Immediate collection

Call Bob on 07787 833833

music shop

BASS PLAYER wanted for original
gig band. Dedication essential.
Contact Karl 07578 899169 or Gary
07505 984025.

sports & leisure

Free Ads

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items up to £250.
Online at
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

holiday feature

MASSIVE STATIC CARAVAN SALE

Huge reductions.
All sales include
SITE FEES PAID FOR 2015.

Sited on Ty Mawr Holiday Park, in North Wales.
Live Entertainment, swimming pool and lots more.
All Part-Exchanges welcome.
Call 01745 822373 for more information

the ticket

CHORAL SPECTACULAR

WARLEY MALE CHOIR

PRESENTS...
MEN IN CONCERT

with guest choir
HADLEY & DISTRICT MVC (TELFORD)
and special Guests
The Brilliant 2 Man Brass Band BRASSED UP
at **Corn Bow Hall, Halesowen, B63 3AF**
SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER
at 7pm

TICKETS: £8 available on the door
or contact: Ron Sweetland - Tel: 0121 552 4113

3

Home & Services

antiques

COLLECTORS ITEMS Pendellin
Figures and houses, 1964-1976, at
a quarter of original prices. 01746
768778 or 01902 761544.

furniture

CREAM LEATHER 2 seater sofa
and remote control recliner chair,
matching foot stool, £300. o.n.o.
07791 591498.

LARGE PINE WARDROBE Good
condition, £70 ono.
0121 520 7749. (Tivdale)

STEEL FRAMED bed settee, 3
seater, brown, 73 inches w, never
used, £250 ono. 01902 835951.

TRADITIONAL ROLL ARM
TWO SEATER SETTEE

Antique gold / black, on legs
with solid brass casters.
Newly re-upholstered.
£295.

CREAM GUSTAVIAN
CORNER UNIT

Top half glazed, very ornate.
Beautiful piece of furniture.
Cost £700. Sell £250.
01299 400516.

household appliances

BEKO adf21300b Fan assisted built
in double oven black glass front
never used. Offers around
£325ono. 07980 303292

DOUBLE GAS OVEN, Cannon,
glass lid, freestanding, grill and four
burners, brushed silver, excellent
condition, £230. 01902 896018.

RAISER RECLINER ARMCHAIRS,
two, electrically operated, matching
two seater settee, excellent condition,
£500. 07932 772007.

STANNAH STAIRLIFT 420SL, 4
metres track, standard step height,
swivel seat, excellent condition,
collection, £525. 07535 747217.

in your garden

Top Soil, Building Sand
Paving/Concrete Sand
Decorative Gravels
Delivered Bagged or Loose
01902 893226

MUSHROOM COMPOST. Bags: 5
£17.50, 10 £30, 20 £50, 50 £150.
Delivered. 01386 442692.
eveshammarketgardener.co.uk

items for sale

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertise-
ment today? We would respect-
fully remind advertisers that it is
their responsibility to inform the
publishers of any mistakes or in-
accuracies on the first day of publica-
tion.

AIR RIFLE With silencer and scope,
as new £170.
01902 755180.

DOUBLE GLAZED Patio windows,
6x6 and 5x6, £150 ono, front door
£25. 01902 755180

PETROL GENERATOR for sale, 2.5
KVA, £50.
07970 024953.

t.v. / home entertainment

sales

FAULTY TVS, LAPTOPS & PS2'S
Bought for cash. Please telephone
07404 837309 for prices.

service

AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs,
Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection.
All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days.
Digital aerials, Sky installation.
Wall mounts & TV setups.
07850 330251

aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
1 aerial into 2 rooms £85
1 aerial into 4 rooms £125
Work Guaranteed
Same Day Service
01902 858191
01384 429166
01543 430905
01922 716029
07833 738857

items wanted

READERS ARE ADVISED to care-
fully consider all of their options
before agreeing to the sale of any of
their items.

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

items wanted

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

blinds

AB-Blinds
Super 6
6 Child Save Verticals
Fitted from only £169
Call 0800 0347111
www.ab-blinds.co.uk

builders

C & M BUILDERS All types of build-
ing work. Extensions, Plastering,
etc. 07473 135856, 07463 849342.

building services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS. Exten-
sions, loft conversions, roofing,
driveways. See us on "Rated
People" Call 01902 575532 / 07837
994465

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER!
10 Days of quality fencing concrete posts, gravel
boards & heavy duty panels supplied and fitted
for **£695.00**
www.portwayfencing.com
Mobile: 07866 137556
Office: 07866 137556

gas fitting

GAS SERVICES

Boilers
Cookers
Fires
Gas Checks
Landlord Certificates
Gas Leaks Traced
Fitted, Serviced and Repaired
Same Day Service
Free Quotes
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs
Call: 01902 366855/
07761 973975

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid
for house clearances and bereave-
ments. Also removals undertaken.
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

painters / decorators

MTK PAINTER & DECORATER-
Competitive quotes, OAP discounts
01384 340930/ 07825 558940.

4

Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to
check if Horses have the required
Passport information.

IFOR WILLIAMS Horse Trailer,
£25 per bale, can deliver.
01902 940603 or 07836 647754.

guns & dogs

pets corner

ANIMAL CONCERN have baby
guinea pigs in their care, £10 each
or 3 for £25.
Please ring 01902 333805.

BEAUTIFUL WHITE Birman Cross
Chinchilla kittens. 3 girls / 1 boy left.
£100 each. o.n.o. 01384 270503.

CHIHUAHUA CROSS Bichon Frise
puppies, 8 weeks old, all colours,
£250. 07975 626073.

kitchens

LOW COST KITCHENS
HIGH QUALITY 18mm CABINETS AS STANDARD
SOFT CLOSE HINGES FREE OF CHARGE
KITCHENS FROM £499 - NEVER BEATEN ON PRICE
FREE MEASURE AND DESIGN SERVICE
CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE 0121 2888003
SPEEDY KITCHENS, JOHN STREET, WILLEHALL, WID IPW
SPEEDY KITCHENS, SPENCER STREET, SHELTON, ST1 4BZ

plumbing & heating

THERMABUILD All aspects of
heating and building work. Boilers,
bathrooms, Kitchens supply and fit,
Bricklaying, Gas Safe. Free quote
07717 752019 / 07403 153180

removals

ABLE REMOVALS
Local & Distance
Domestic & Commercial
Competitive Prices
Movers from just £50
Call 07870 341089

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local
Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don:
0800 587 0377
or 07749 941319

roofing

FIRST DIRECTION ROOFING Flat
roof, tile roofing replace and repair.
Fascias, soffits and guttering.
Trustatrade.com listed.
Free quotes call 0800 0246151.

MR ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof
repairs, fascias and gutters. Call:
01902 238999 / 07580 465449.

PREMIER ROOFING New Roofs,
Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call:
0121 532 7601 or 07875 387445.

skip hire

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.
Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast,
friendly & reliable service. Monday
to Saturday 8.30am to 5pm service. Call:
0121 555 6060.

4

Pets & Animals

ROSE
I am a lovely
labrador x bordeaux x rottweiler
something.
I am a gold/rusty colour.
Gentle girl and the size of a
small labrador. App/.

5 years old and I have a super
temperament, am good with
children and other dogs.
If you can offer me a loving
home call Vi on 01584 890032.

VERY SWEET Black Kittens
needing loving homes. Ready now.
For only a small charge, for details
call 01384 830758.

vets

Express & Star

THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS

Every day our
customers get a
great response from Classified
Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that
they meet all necessary legal
requirements for owning and
using guns.

8

Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to
take appropriate professional
advice before entering any
obligations.

businesses for sale

TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC HOUSE
Free of tie, £5 - 6k weekly. Signifi-
cantly reduced to £38,500.
07980 042593.

6

Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an
offence under the Accommodation
Agencies Act 1985, for an Agency
to charge a fee simply for the registra-
tion of your requirements and/or
supplying particulars of premises to let.

BRIERLEY HILL House, must see,
large bedrooms, dining room,
garage and garden. £595pm or
rooms £60pw. 07585 429131.

LUXURY ONE bed flat, single
person, parking, viewing essential.
No Oss, £85pw. 01902 885985.

accommodation wanted

HOUSE WANTED in Dunstall area.
3-bed, modern, rent between £600
£700pm. Other areas considered.
01902 241008 / 07412 663774

bungalows

LLANGYNEW, MID WALES
Superb chalet bungalow.
Fully residential, 3 beds.
Fully double glazed and central
heating. Lovely gardens, all
round with a view over the
valley.
Reduced to £75,000 ono.
Telephone 01938 811194.

TWO BUNGALOWS
SEMI DETACHED
KIDDERMINSTER
Both two bedroom, in need of
modernisation, substantial plot
of land, four car workshop at
rear, sold as one unit.
£265,000.
Telephone 01562 822266
(after 7pm).

5

Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to
take appropriate professional
advice before entering any
obligations.

businesses for sale

TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC HOUSE
Free of tie, £5 - 6k weekly. Signifi-
cantly reduced to £38,500.
07980 042593.

6

Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an
offence under the Accommodation
Agencies Act 1985, for an Agency
to charge a fee simply for the registra-
tion of your requirements and/or
supplying particulars of premises to let.

BRIERLEY HILL House, must see,
large bedrooms, dining room,
garage and garden. £595pm or
rooms £60pw. 07585 429131.

properties wanted



BLACK COUNTRY HOMES

We buy any house

We Pay 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME

- We are a family run local business.
- Buying properties for over 30 years.
- A fair offer from people you can trust.
- No fees - Free solicitors.

We also buy Commercial & Industrial, Shops, factories, building plots, land....even your garden!

text GOAL to 88802 and we will call you back now.

Call Stan on



0800 0321718 or **01902 628047** 24 hrs

*Subject to terms

we can buy your house in
0800 389 6788 24 hrs
wolverhampton properties

*Subject to terms

2 days

LOOK WE BUY ANY HOUSE
ANY AREA ANY CONDITION
24-7 **0800 085 6626**
national homeowners helpline-co.uk in a mess? talk in confidence we can help

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

FOR THE BEST PRICE ON YOUR HOME Call **0800 783 2822** 24 hrs

GUARANTEED

- Guaranteed offer*
- Any condition
- Free solicitors
- No fees*

* Terms apply



+SICK

of trying to sell your house
Call the House Doctor
Now for the best price
0800 085 2455

sell you house
we are just a phone call away
• Any Circumstances
• Any condition • No fees
Fast completion
0800 085 2455

pink we pay more
Call Free **0800 169 1118** (24 hrs)
• No Fees* • Any area*
• Any property • Repossessions stop
• Any condition • Deceased estates
• Free confidential service

I BUY ANY HOUSE 4 CASH QUICK AND EASY
call Alex
0800 917 1233
Anytime

SOLD

One phone call
Solves all your problems
Sell your house now
a guaranteed offer, no fees, fast completion any condition, any circumstances
Local Investor
01902 628047

CALL PENNY for TOP PRICES NOW
*Local *Honest *Reliable
0800 389 6788

PICK UP the phone CALL NOW
Best Price
Sam **07756 022 973**
(24 Hours)

A Better Cash Deal
Its simple as that... you will get the best deal on your home from
FIRST GENERAL HOMES
0800 917 1233

Get Up to 100% For Your House - Fast!

- Any property. Any condition. Anywhere
- Get up to 100% of the market value
- Free valuation. Free consultation
- 100% Confidential. No obligation

Fast Sale Maximum Value



UP TO 100% PAID

SOLD

NO OBLIGATION FREE CONSULTATION

24/7 Helpline **0800 092 5743**
CALL NOW **01902 489 500**

YellowSpringbok.co.uk

I WILL BUY YOUR HOUSE
★ ANY AREA
★ ANY PRICE
★ ANY CONDITION
CALL PAULA ON
01384 467643
INDEPENDENT • LOCAL • CONFIDENTIAL

HOME CASH BUYER
WILL PAY 15K MORE
Complete within 7 days
Ring Paul,
07870 341089

7 Jobs
courses

BILLY THOMAS
DSA QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS
HEV C+E (ARTIC) & C (RIGID)
75T (C) SMALL LORRY
CAR & TRAILER (B+E)
MINIBUS (D1)
1-2-1 TRAINING
INITIAL CPC TRAINING & ADR
CPC Periodic Training for PCV & LGV
from 7hr blocks - Full 35hrs
01902 744726 / 07831 646601

TOP GEAR
Driver Training
• LGV / PCV Training
• 1-1 Gold Standard tuition
• Free Assessments
• CPC Courses
• Driver Medicals
• Caravan & Horse Box
Tuition available
0121 585 0834
www.topgear-lgv.com
building & construction
BLOCK PAVER WANTED with own van/tools. Local work. Call and leave your details on 07580 187793.

8 Motoring
cars over £1500
AUDI A6 LE MANS TDI Auto 2008. Drives like new. Silver with black leather. 1 owner from new. 130k. FSH. Pristine condition. MoT'd. All usual refinements. £7,999. Call 07836 204450 deolsuk@hotmail.co.uk
BMW 5 SERIES Estate. 2000, rare, manual, low miles. MoT Apr. £1,395 ono or PX for small car. 01902 530123 / 07747 740971.

FIAT PANDA
ELEGANZA
1.2 petrol, 04, 5 doors, blue, ABS, air bag, electric mirrors and windows, air con, FSH, alarm, New MoT, metallic paint, central locking, PAS, Alloys, CD, one owner, Superb.
£1,850.
07724 629285.

FORD FIESTA 2010. 1600 diesel sports, full leather, traction control, parking sensors, 12 months MoT, £6,500. 07787 412992.
FORD FIESTA LX 2004. 3dr, 87,000 miles, MoT, air bags, EW, AC, one previous owner. £1,500. 01902 655586.
FORD FOCUS
C-MAX
ZETEC
2004, diesel, automatic, grey, abs, e/w, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, central locking, pas, alloys, CD, immaculate.
£2,100.
Telephone 07811 340605.

JEEP COMMANDER 3.0D
2007, 78,000 miles, silver, abs, MoT, leather, 7 seats, cruise, Hil-Lo 4x4, diesel, premium audio, memory seats.
£8,500 ono.
07888 829934.
MAZDA MX5 sports convertible, 2003, MoT June 2015, beautiful condition, manual 5 speed, £1,595. 01384 873411 or 07711 686220.
MERCEDES C CLASS Advantage, 2001, silver, excellent condition, same owner since 2002, 12 months MoT, £1,695 ono. 07913 981460.
NISSAN FIGARO
1992, petrol, mint green, automatic, full leather, 67,730 miles, 4 owners, MoT June 2015, vehicle report on it, viewing recommended.
Reduced price £3,500.
01299 489433.

NISSAN MICRA SE, 1.3
Grey metallic, 3-dr, 2004, 50,000 miles, CD, EW, AC, MoT until March 2015. Owner from new. Nissan Service records, **£1,450.**
Telephone 07597 960815.
NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 1.4, 2008 reg. 5dr, FSH. MoT April 2015, metallic blue, 96,000 miles. Very good condition. **£3,000 ono.** 01902 564264.
NISSAN XTRAIL 2.0 Diesel, 54 reg, met silver, full MoT, good condition, £3,750 ono. 07977 663230.

PEUGEOT 107 LTD EDITION

Two owners from new.
30k miles. MoT June 2015. AC.
EV. Alloy wheels, blue.
Excellent condition.
Ideal first car.
£3,250 ono.
07905 610209.

PEUGEOT 107 URBAN

1000cc, 2010, £20 tax, Group 1
insurance, 60mpg, gleaming
paintwork, spotless interior, low
miles, MoT. This car is like new.
1st to see will buy.
£3,495.
07887 691166.

PEUGEOT 307CC COUPE Black

Rare opportunity, hard top convert-
ible, 4,700 miles only, 2005, like
new, £4,995 ono. 01952 727446.

PORSCHE BOXSTER

2001, elec-
tric roof, abs, e/w, elm, a/c, fsh,
alarm, MoT, pas, power amp,
superb, £4,995 ono.
01902 405262.

RENAULT CLIO

2012, 24,500 miles, smokey
blue, 4 door, a/c, c/c, leather
seats, pas, manual, s/h, Sat
Nav, 1, 1cc, cheap too run.
£5,100 ono.
07532 115881.

SAAB 95 TD SE 1.9 Diesel

08, 47,000 miles, metallic silver, FSH,
immaculate, MoT April. £4,750 ono.
01902 597423 / 07814 295791.

TOYOTA LAND CRUISER

4.7 LPG petrol, X reg, 2000,
long MoT, 125,000 miles. Top
of the range, Nice condition.
£6,500
(may part exchange)
Telephone 07904 612854.

VAUXHALL CORSA Club 1.4 auto

58 reg, blue, 32k, long MoT, recent
service, £3,450.
01902 567630.

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0

2011, 79,000 miles, abs, fsh,
full MoT, diesel, optical park,
DAB, phone, Cruise, 140bhp.
£9,800.
07873 257350.

VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2S

2011, 25,000 miles, pas, airbag, VW
fish, one owner, £5,500.
07873 257350.

VW GOLF GT, FSI, 2.0L, 04, MoT

Aug 2015, recent cam belt, 155k,
blue, service history, £1,950 ono.
01902 847277 / 07548 511612.

VW POLO 1.2, 2011, 61 plate, 11

months MoT, good collection,
59,500 miles, reliable, 55,000 ono.
01902 745711 / 07791 076789.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE

REMINDER
that the Business Advertise-
ments (Disclosure) Order of
1977 requires that advertise-
ments must clearly
differentiate between Private
and Trade.

CHRYSLER PT Cruiser

2.0, petrol, auto, 48k, SH, looks & drives as
new, £999 ono. 0121 5747066.

CITROEN SAXO VTR

51 reg, full MoT, 85k, alloys, SR, CL, PAS,
silver, economical, £550.
01902 580716

CITROEN XANTIA Diesel

HDI, X reg, 88k, tow bar, excellent con-
dition, long MoT, £695 ono.
Willehall 07850 090075.

DAIHATSU TERIOS

2003, 122,000 miles, blue, abs,
electric windows, air bag, elec-
tric mirrors, MoT, central
locking, alloys, stereo, CD, 4x4.
£1,500 ono.
07801 599836.

DAIHATSU TERIOS X reg

used daily, MoT just expired, new car
forces sale, £2200 ono.
01902 830716

FORD ESCORT TD

8 months MoT, low miles, good condition, £350
ono. 07961 557762.

FORD KA 52

74,779 miles, MoT Jan
20, 2015, £500 ono. 01902 590889
/ 07456 426674.

FORD MAVERICK 4x4

LWB, 4.7TD, M Reg, 4 months MoT, low
bar, tow bar, £495 ono. 01902
842401 or 07949 259204.

LANDROVER DISCOVERY

1994, MoT, July, clean & tidy, side steps,
new clutch, CD player, £975 ono.
01384 626755 / 07936 282473.

MERCEDES CLK320 Avantgarde

2002, 132,000 miles, green, auto,
fish, MoT, drives perfectly, £1,250.
07973 883246.

PEUGEOT 106 1.1 XL INDEPEND

ENCE Blue 1115, Blue 1115,
MoT Sept '15, Ideal First Car £475.
01902 655895, 07785130200

PEUGEOT 206 STATION WAGON SXI

52 plate, 59,000 miles, 12
months MoT, new clutch and
tyres, excellent condition.
£1,295 ono.
07772 337190.

RENAULT LAGUNA

silver, 55 reg, diesel, 5dr hatch, 104k, full MoT,
FSH, excellent condition, £1,295.
07703 540507 or 01384 274518.

ROVER 25 Facelift

1.4, black, 54
plate, 68k miles, MoT July 2015,
CL, some service history, £775
ono. Dudley/Wton 07749 631953.

VAUXHALL CORSA

1.0, 3dr hatch,
2002, MoT June, blue, petrol, 128k,
4 former keepers, excellent runner,
£750 ono. 07974 264128.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2

5-dr, silver, 03 reg, 54,000 miles, 5
months MoT, very good condition,
£1,075. 07850 113660.

VAUXHALL CORSA

COMFORT
2001, 69,800 miles, green, fsh,
long MoT, metallic paint, central
locking, sunroof, stereo.
£1,200 ono.
07722 566428.

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF

1998, 97k,
auto, Red, abs, e/w, hsh, alloy, cli,
pas, CD, new cambelt 84k, 1
months MoT, £450 ono.
07813 612943.

VW GOLF 1.4E

2002, 73,000 miles,
5 door, green, MoT, one owner,
service history, good condition.
£1,250 ono. 07909 374334.

classic cars

CLASSIC CARS WANTED

Private cash buyer
Instant cash settlement.
Any age, any condition.
Call Market Drayton.
01630 652993.

FORD SIERRA GHIA

2.0, 1991,
MoT, no advisories, very sound &
original, 93k only, runs/drives
superb, £845. 07581 680843.

ROVER MINI MAYFAIR

2nd owner
from 38,344 miles unused and
stored in garage for over 9 years.
£3,950 ono. 07712 588245

commercial vehicles

FIAT FIORINO

2011, 47,000 miles,
1.3D, white, MoT April, excellent
condition, good runner, £4,500 no
VAT. 07904 405444.

PEUGEOT PARTNER Van

58/09,
HDI 75, MoT Sept 2015, 15,000
reg bars, good condition, £3,295
ono. 01384 390034/07752 065437.

driving tuition

Homer's

Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto,
207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS
MANUAL & AUTOMATIC
AD/POI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available.
07970 200066 / 01922 780250
01562 870050 / 01384 234954
01543 660120 / 0121 584 0090
01902 580065
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS

are reminded
that it is an offence under the Scrap
Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy
scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB

TOP PRICES PAID FOR
ALL SCRAP CARS,
VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts
available at all times
MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ

1st CHOICE

TOP PRICE PAID 4 SCRAP CARS!
VANS! CAMPER! MOT FAILURES!
ANYTHING CONSIDERED
FREE COLLECTION
WITHIN THE HOUR! 7 DAYS
01902 562853
07977 499516
07895 346811 - 24 hrs

A B SPARES

Pays More
All Scrap Cars & Vans Wanted
Anything Considered
Free Collection
Scrap 1 Legally Q&Q Green Instant Payment.
01902 493110 / 0121 525 5813 daytime
01902 659775 evenings

ABC AUTO SALVAGE

WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best
Prices Paid ELV Registered
Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557
0400. Evening 07813 184611
Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars

Used cars wanted for cash
Top prices paid, HP settled.
Buyer could call.
01562 711083 /
07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS

Guarantee best
cash price for unwanted cars/vans.
Call 01902 597035 / 07903 549849.

spares & accessories

accessories & services

TRAILER

6 x 4 with electrics.
£70.
07543 237183.

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service &
repairs. Headgasket, clutches and
cambelts. 07747 848469.

tyres / wheels / exhausts

ALLOY WHEELS 16 inch with good
tyres, 4 studs, £150.
07543 237183.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you
may fax any advertising
requirements to
Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@
expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a
name/contact number for
confirmation of receipt)

MAISE BARNLEY

(Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any
persons having a claim against or an
interest in the Estate of the afore-
mentioned deceased, late of 162
Broadway Avenue Halesowen West
Midlands B63 4QE, who died on
13/03/2014, are required to send
particulars thereof in writing to the
undersigned Solicitors on or before
23/01/2015, after which date the Estate
will be distributed having regard only to
claims and interests of which they have
had notice.

GEORGE GREEN LLP

195 High Street Cradley Heath
West Midlands B64 5HW T424542

10 Personals

personal

Angels

The largest adult entertainers in
the Midlands
• Adult Toys • Giggly Lingerie
• Erotic Live Shows
Unit 5 Frederick Street,
Walsall WS2 9NE
01922 635644

ADULT PLAYROOM FURNITURE

Crosses, benches, frames etc.
Trade enquiries welcome
www.adultfunfurniture.co.uk
or call 07799 120 744
email adultfunfurniture@gmail.com

ATTENTION LADIES 40-55

Please don't pass this advert
by, read on and see I'm a
genuine guy.
51, slim, attractive, GSOH,
romantic too, hoping for reply
from a lady like you.

Box Number P19559,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE, 52

SLIM, 5FT 10INS
Black hair, brown eyes and
tanned, Asian/English.
Loving, kind, caring, sincere,
easy going, romantic, sensitive,
spiritual, friendly.
Own business.
Looking for a female soulmate
to share my life with.
Age unimportant.
Single Mums welcome.
Write to Box Number P19568
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE, 52

SLIM, 5FT 10INS
Black hair, brown eyes and
tanned, Asian/English.
Loving, kind, caring, sincere,
easy going, romantic, sensitive,
spiritual, friendly.
Own business.
Looking for a female soulmate
to share my life with.
Age unimportant.
Single Mums welcome.
Write to Box Number P19568
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19568,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE, 52

SLIM, 5FT 10INS
Black hair, brown eyes and
tanned, Asian/English.
Loving, kind, caring, sincere,
easy going, romantic, sensitive,
spiritual, friendly.
Own business.
Looking for a female soulmate
to share my life with.
Age unimportant.
Single Mums welcome.
Write to Box Number P19568
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19559,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19559,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19559,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19559,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19559,

Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

ATTRACTIVE FEMALE

YOUNG 55
Slim, young at heart and fun
loving person, who enjoys
weekends away, eating out and
holidays abroad and much
more.
Would like to meet male with
similar outlook to enjoy life with.
All replies answered.
Please include photo
(will return)
Box Number P19555,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

BRITISH INDIAN GUY

50, seeks companionship for
days out together and cosy
nights in.
Box Number P19556,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

FEMALE 44

New to area.
Seeks male for Friendship,
maybe more.
Likes dining out, music and
outdoors.
Box Number C19563,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GOOD LOOKING MALE, 51

Kind, caring.
Seeking caring girl to share
happy life with, maybe spend
Christmas together. Age 40-55.
Photo appreciated (returned).
Box Number P19567,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

LOOKING FOR Miss A Lee.

Please contact Naylor.
07900 072857.

LOOKING FORWARD TO

CHRISTMAS??? NO!!!!
How would you like
Christmas in the
Canary Islands this year!
I'm a mature, unattached male,
who's looking for an energetic,
intelligent, unattached female,
initially for friendship and
companionship.
I have a very good standard of
living but I am definitely not into
computers or facebook.
If you're in a rut and would like
to change your life, please reply
to:
Box Number C19565,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SEDLGLEY WHITE LIONS

GIRLS U16'S
Are looking for Players to
strengthen existing squad.
Playing Saturday in the Central
Warwickshire League. Current
school years 10 and 11.
Also recruiting for U16's boys all
positions.
Call Steve 01384 620598.

general

PRIVATE CARER

Do you or any member of your
Family need a private Carer. I
have 15 years experience with
Dementia, Palliative Care and
help in general.
Please call Suzanne on
07854 682452.

MICHAEL 47 YEARS FROM

STOURBRIDGE
Tall, smart, lonely professional,
hopeless romantic, kind and
sociable, enjoys travel, would like
to be a knight in shining
armour for the right lady.
Seeks genuine female to share
good times with and possibly
more.
Box Number P19553,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE FRIENDS WANTED

Young looking male, 5ft 10, slim
to medium build, good looking,
friendly guy, mobile, employed
and creative, outgoing, seeks
male friends aged 22-30 years
of slim build, to enjoy friendship,
social and leisure interests such
as cinema, bowling, dining
out/in, pool/snooker, holidays,
concerts, photography, visiting
places of interest etc.
Photograph appreciated. (Will
return). Genuine replies only, all
letters answered.
Box Number P19554,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

WARMHEARTED

GENT 70S
Very young at heart,
compassionate, would love to
meet, lady, 60-75 with same
feelings for eventual close
relationship or more.
I drive, love countryside, eat in
or out, my own home in very
quiet spot, love music, garden,
out most days, relax at night,
likes TV, local shows want to
get away for weekend breaks.
Long loving relationship wanted
to brighten life up with the right
person.
Box Number P19557,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

ENVILLE ATHLETIC F.C.

Playing in the MFL Saturday.
Manager / Coach required.
Full details contact secretary
07850 219179.

SEDGLEY WHITE LIONS

GIRLS U16'S
Are looking for Players to
strengthen existing squad.
Playing Saturday in the Central
Warwickshire League. Current
school years 10 and 11.
Also recruiting for U16's boys all
positions.
Call Steve 01384 620598.

general

Local Specialists



Aerials

J. J. Digital Aerials

Installation of Digital, Freeview & Satellite

**WE GUARANTEE TO
BEAT ANY LIKE FOR LIKE QUOTE**

AERIALS £55 - SATELLITE £65
SELF EMPLOYED EXPERT WHO YOU CAN TRUST

Friendly, reliable service

0121 5306785/ 07919 597626

LUKE'S LOCAL AERIALS

Sandwell
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE **0121 445 1382**
FREE QUOTES FIXED PRICES

Luke's Mobile: 07864 590543

NEW DIGITAL AERIAL + MAST + CABLE £69

DIGITAL AERIAL + CABLE to any room £59

NEW CABLE £39 REMOVE AERIAL £29

REPAIRS £39 TUNING £25

SATELLITE DISH Fitted £69 DISH REPAIRS £39

DIGITAL AERIAL To 2 Rooms JUST £80

3 Rooms JUST £100 4 Rooms JUST £120

Blinds & Curtains

Carpet & Upholstery cleaning

Blinds4Less

Leaving a good impression!

Choose from a fantastic range!

-Pleated - Venetians

-Roman - Curtains

-Vertical - Awnings

-Roller - Shutters

- 10% off thermally efficient Shut-

ters and outdoor awnings!

- 40% off Conservatory roof blinds!

Give us a try before you buy!

Contact us on

01384 886162 / 01902 500204

07989 588728

Blinds4lessdirect.com

CLEANCARE

Carpet & Upholstery
Cleaners

Fully Trained, Insured
C.R.B. Registered Staff

Friendly Service

For Free Quotes

Tel: 0121 270 1998

07816 817744

Builders

D H Household Maintenance

Decking to DIY

Plastering to Plumbing

All areas covered

0121 422 8594

07985 548466

Local Specialists



Building Plans

Do you prepare Building Plans??

If you want to advertise
your business please call

01384

353256



Carpentry

CARPENTRY SERVICES

ROBERT CHESNEY
CARPENTRY / JOINERY

KITCHEN FITTING SPECIALIST

ALL CARPENTRY WORKS

ROOFS / DOORS / LOCKS

DECKING SPECIALIST

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE

0121 421 6740

07779746939



Double Glazing

Misted Sealed Units?

Contact us for a free quote!

Tel **01384 566100**

Email: quotations@
blackcountryglazing.com

BLACK COUNTRY GLAZING Est 1987



Electricians

CW Electrical

Kingswinford Limited

Domestic

Industrial

Commercial

Fault Finding & Condition Reports

Rewires/Part Rewires

Additional Sockets

Shower Replacements

Intruder Alarms

Security Lights

Storage Heaters

Electric Cooker Repairs

Visit our website for more services

Over 10 Years Experience

01384 278471

INSTALLATIONS 7 DAYS A WEEK

Cleaning Services

Klassy Kleeners

Don't fuss, leave the
cleaning to us!

Web - klassykleeners.co.uk

Email - klassykleeners@mail.com

0121 565 4411



SCOTTS WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIRS

- Misty Units
- Broken Locks
- Door Repairs
- Patio Doors

20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
ALL WORK
GUARANTEED

07973 84 84 38

0800 034 0344

Computers

NEED ADVICE ON COMPUTING?

• All PC Problems Resolved • Software & Hardware Installed

• Virus & Spyware Removed • PC Health Checks

• Home Network Implemented • Internet Connections Installed

DON'T BE FOOLED INTO THINKING YOU NEED A NEW PC

Call: **0121 422 7646** or **07970 846 552**

JUDR@P PC SUPPORT

email: support@judrap.com www.judrap.com

Decorating

Driveways

Red and Black Tarmac Drives
Full Range of Block Paving
Drainage Systems. Lawns and Fencing
Garden Walls and Patios

LAWSON CONSTRUCTION & PAVING
TELEPHONE: **0121 602 2355**
Mobile **07850 496012**

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac
Drives • Paths • Patios
Slabbing • Red Tarmac
Car Parks

5 Year Guarantee On All Work

Free Quotations and Advice

Tel: **01384 79900** • **07583 170190**

www.discountdriveways.co.uk

Electricians

Winter Deal!!!
Is your fuseboard in need of
an upgrade?
Does your house wiring
need an MOT?

J S Quality Electrical Services Ltd are offering a

Winter Deal not to be missed on all new fuseboard upgrades, we

only supply and fit the latest and safest fuseboards along with a

Part P Electrical Installation Certificate. Also included with the

fuseboard change is a full MOT of your entire house wiring.

Call us today on

0121 531 6884 or **07753 393562**

for more information

www.jsqualityelectrical.co.uk

jselectricalservices@hotmail.co.uk

Starkey Electrical Ltd

Manor House, Manor Lane, Halesowen Domestic, Commercial & Industrial Electricians

For all your electrical needs in the home, garden,
driveway or office/retail premises

• Landlord Certification • Fuse board replacements • Rewiring

• Energy saving LED Lighting • Emergency call outs-7 days a week

• Experienced electricians NICEIC regulated

• Competitive Prices/FREE quotations

www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk

0121 602 8088 (24 Hour Call Outs)

07967 650 567 OFFICE: 0844 561 7244

APPROVED CONTRACTOR

ELECTRICIAN

Fully guaranteed work

Honest reliable service

ANT ELECTRIC

Ring Tony or Julie on

0121 422 3549

07974 428 603

'No Job Too Small'

A M ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Domestic, Commercial, Industrial

Fall And Part Rewires / Fuse Boards

Upgrades / Shower / Extra Sockets

PAT Testing / Safety Reports

CCTV / Burglar Alarms

Free Quotes And Advice Call

0121 369 2370

07785 781652

MULLARD ELECTRICAL SERVICES

ALL TYPES OF DOMESTIC

ELECTRICAL WORK

UNDERTAKEN & FINISHED TO

THE HIGHEST STANDARD

Call Dan on:

01384 263357

or **07866 886364**

MB electric

All domestic and commercial

electrical works undertaken

Home rewiring from £800

For a high quality

local service call:

0121 3690311

07939 503905

mbelectric.co.uk

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...
lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
**Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake
Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB**

Local Specialists

Fencing

LBT Fencing

All types of quality fencing supplied & erected
Plus decking, slabbing & block paving
FREE QUOTES
Tel: 0121 585 9992 or 07884 344616
www.lbtffencing.co.uk

Gardening

Sandwell Gardeners

Leaf Collection
Grass cutting
Hedge cutting
Weeding / pruning
fence painting
Patio jet washing service
All aspects of gardening
Special rates for OAP's & low incomes
FREE QUOTATIONS
No job too small Call 07908012267

Motoring Accessories

Why Pay Main Dealer Prices?

Crossways Motor Bodies

- Motor Body Work Specialists
- Insurance Approved
- From a minor bump to major repairs
- **FREE** local pick up and delivery
- **FREE** estimates and written quotes

30 Years Experience



For a **FREE** estimate call:
0121 559 4040

We also supply a car and van to none fault or insurance claims
Web: www.crosswaysmotorbodies.co.uk
email: crossways1@btinternet.com

Station Road, Old Hill, Cradley Heath, B64 6PL

Plastering

Plasterer?

Need to promote your business, please call
01384 353256



Nick's Plastering Services

ALL TYPES OF PLASTERING WORK UNDERTAKEN
Advanced City and Guilds Qualified
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Low Prices
FREE QUOTES
0121 559 4818
07930 525677

Plumbing & Heating

SUPERWARM HEATING

Specialists in replacing Boilers, Power Flushing Systems, Worcester Bosch, Baxi & Vaillant accredited Installer
30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
Ex British Gas
Call Eddie
07976 755441
0121 544 8427

NAJRAN

BUILDING, FENCING & GAS SUPPLIES

0121 456 3555 • 07930 396620

194-196 Springhill Hockley Birmingham B18 7BS
najranfencing@gmail.com
www.najranbuildingandfencing.co.uk

Suppliers to trade & public

- SLABS
- FENCING
- SHEDS
- TURF
- F/E PANELS
- SAND & CEMENT
- TIMBER
- GAS
- SAND AND CEMENT
- GATES
- MADE TO MEASURE
- SAND AND CEMENT

ANY LIKE-FOR-LIKE QUOTE BEATEN!

SPECIAL OFFERS

ALL HEAVY DUTY WANEY PANELS
Choice of 6x5 / 6x6
FROM ONLY £14.95

6x4 T/G PENT
FROM £195

10 BAYS - Supply & Fit
FROM £595
(including concrete post/gravel boards/h/d waney panels)

10 BAYS - Supply & Fit
FROM £695
(including concrete post/gravel boards/h/d waney panels) (Up to 6ft high finish)

Portable Heaters
NOW IN STOCK
BEST PRICES GUARANTEED
Decorative Gravel
Compost Turf
DOG KENNELS
made to measure
FROM £25

Many other special offers in store - ring for details - prices too good to print! Tell us your best price & we will try and beat it! **ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT**

Mobile Heater Packages FROM £79

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!
STOCKIST OF ENERGENS PRODUCTS
DELIVERY & COLLECTION SERVICE AVAILABLE

Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken
• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
• Turfing • Garden Clearance
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Manufacturers of all Concrete Products eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards
All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)

Call Steve on
01384 242891 or 07970 300586

Gardening

Dal's Gardening & Tree Services

- A Good reliable service,
 - A Name you can trust
 - All areas covered
- So don't delay phone today for a **FREE** quotation
07407 622855

Garden Transformations

From total makeovers and clearances to decking and fencing
Guaranteed lowest prices
0121 422 8594
07985 548466

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation
24/7 365 emergency callout service
01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

Gardening

R & S Gardens

- All garden work undertaken
- Hedges and lawns cut
- General tidy and rubbish removed
- Garden Landscaping & Fencing Work.

Telephone: 07851 323303

Elegant Stairs
Quality Stairparts supplied & fitted by mature craftsman
For this and other carpentry work phone Bill for a Free Estimate/Quote on
0121 533 9339
or **07505 807686**

Garage Doors

DB GARAGE DOORS

- Supply & install
- All types of doors
- Security Grills
- FREE Survey & Quotation
- Repair Service
- Remote Control Doors
- Made to Measure

www.dbshutters.co.uk
Tel: 0121 422 1990 Mob: 07860 858378

Gas and Boiler Services

To promote your Gas & Boiler Service

Please call
01384 353256



Mot's

MOT

£27.99
with this advert
FREE RE-TEST

Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,
(rear of Gold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ

0121 559 6001



Paving

DRIVES • PATHS • PATIOS • COBBLES

JET WASHING SERVICE

FINE-LINE PAVING
(MIDLANDS) LTD.

CONTACT ANDY OR GRAHAM NOW FOR A **FREE, NO OBLIGATION QUOTE**
(01384) 869605
07950 659668 / 07754 676336

ALL BRICKWORK & GROUNDWORK UNDERTAKEN
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

www.fine-linepaving.co.uk

Landscapers

CARDINAL LANDSCAPES
West Midlands
Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping
Call now for a **FREE QUOTE**
01902 562600 or 07539 887144

Plastering

DH PLASTERERS
FROM boarding, skimming, patching and repairs TO complete rooms
GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES
0121 422 8594 or 07985 548466

C.A. Plastering

For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming and artex covering
No job too small Quality rendering and terracolling.

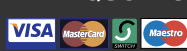
07538 718264

Gas Heating Services

130 Hagley Road (Shop 6), Halesowen B63 1DY

- Central Heating
- Gas Fitting
- Plumbing
- Gas Appliance Servicing
- Boiler Maintenance & Repairs
- Specialists in Combination Boilers
- Fully Trained Engineers
- Family Run Business

FREE QUOTES



Call us today for fast, friendly advice
Office: 0121 503 0066
www.gassafe1.com

R.S PLUMBING AND HEATING

All General Plumbing Undertaken
• Bathrooms Suites
• Radiators / Tanks / Pumps Fitted
• Outside Taps Fitted
• Leaks Repaired
• PipeWork Alterations • Local Friendly Service
Call Richard: 07902 557 496

EDM HEATING & PLUMBING

• REPAIRS • INSTALLATION • SERVICE
• LANDLORD SAFETY CERTIFICATES
• NO CALL OUT CHARGE
20% ELDERLY DISCOUNT
CALL SHAUN
07850 951346
edmheatingandplumbing@hotmail.co.uk

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...
lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB

Local Specialists



Plumbing & Heating

New Boiler & Radiators, Pipework - Fitted
Now Only **£2850** T/C apply

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

All boilers available from **WORCESTER** + Budget Ranges

Boiler Services from £40

ECOPIPE
Plumbing & Heating Solutions

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE, NO JOB TOO SMALL
01299 827070 07545 631731
www.ecopipeheating.co.uk ecopipe@live.co.uk
ALL AREAS COVERED

Plumbing & Heating

HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)
iphe All installations and repairs
Supply and fit or fit only
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes
Tel: Neil 07968 786449 - 0121-601 6767
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

Property Maintenance

ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD

- ★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating
- ★ All Aspects Of Plastering And Specialist Machine Rendering
- ★ Rendering ★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
- ★ Flooring And Tiling ★ Plus Much More....

CALL NOW FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION
01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED, PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

REPAIR, INSTALL & MAINTAIN

GAS & HEATING APPLIANCES

- BATHROOMS
- KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOMS ALSO UNDERTAKEN

ESTABLISHED FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

atlas property solutions **07830 381506**
ELECTRICAL - GAS - PLUMBING
www.atlaspropertyolutions.co.uk

INSIDE OUT SERVICES

ALL ASPECTS OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

- BRICKWORK • BLOCK PAVING CLEANING
- GUTTERING • FELT ROOFING • POINTING UP
- EXTERIOR PAINTING DECORATING
- ELECTRICAL WORK • LANDSCAPING
- NO JOB TOO SMALL

Phone George 0121 602 3065 07974 538649

Skip Hire

K S SERVICES
All types of General Repairs to your home and garden
Also interior and exterior decorating
Local Friendly Service
0121 532 4861
No Job Too Small

SKIP HIRE IN HALESOWEN
Minis - Midis
The best in the West
0121 561 5493 07956 664002

Roofing

R HICKMAN ROOFING LTD
28 years experience
ALL TYPES OF ROOFING AND MAINTENANCE
FREE Quotes

- General work undertaken
- All areas covered
- Fascias, Soffits & Gutters

Call: 07970 818147

Roofing

ROOFING SERVICES

- Gutters Cleaned From £15
- Small Repairs From £15
- Pointing Work From £15

SPECIAL OFFERS
on all UPVC Fascias, Gutters, New Roofs/Slate Tile & Felt and Garage Roofs
- Insurance work undertaken
- Est 25 years
- Discounted for OAPs
- Exterior Painting

WILL BEAT ANY GENUINE QUOTE

Home: 01384 872276 Mobile: 07584 081228

ALL WEATHER ROOFING

Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding
FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE
Over 30 years experience

0121 420 1582
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
Mobile Number: **07947 839451**
allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk
allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com

Roofing Contractors

est. over 30 years

- Small repairs £15 • Gutters cleaned £15 • Pointing £15
- Fascias and gutters cleaned £30 • Missing slates £25
- Chimney, retilers, repointed £30
- High performance flat roof (25 years guarantee)
- Fibreglass sheeting • uPVC Verges
- Flat roof repairs £25 • Tiling slating

Telephone or text **07773 001 859**
01384 591 826

ELITE PLASTICS

- Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge
- Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair

Premium Products Expertly Fitted With Full Manufacture Guarantee.

For A Free Quote call 01384 468831 / 07985 575865

WATERPROOFING Services

Fast and friendly service from a family run business, with over 10 years' experience
SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE, fibreglass flat roofing, flat felt roofing, uPVC, fascias, soffits and guttering, lead work, pointing and storm damage

no job too big or too small
For a free quote call
0121 423 4602 or 07841 046 126
Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PD

Specialists

wednesbury kitchens
Bathrooms & Bedrooms LTD

Friendly advice from a family run business with 35 years experience.
We offer a full range of services from free quote and design to installation central heating, building work, plastering and tiling

Call or visit today.
45 LOWER HIGH STREET, WEDNESBURY WS10 7AQ
0121 505 3334
www.kitchenbathroombedrooms.com
Opening times: Monday-Friday: 9.30am-5.00pm
Closed: Thursday & Sunday Saturday: 9.30am-2.00pm

Upholstery

JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES
Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques
CONTRACT & DOMESTIC
No Job Too Small
FREE ESTIMATES
Choice of patterns
Quality Workmanship
• Blackheath
0121 561 3977 daytime
or 0121 561 2344 evenings after 6 pm

Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Window Specialists

AFFORDABLE WINDOWS & DOORS
Put your Trust in Steve... Looking after Clients for 15 years

DOOR BARRELL CHANGES from £20

WINDOW PACKAGES NOW AVAILABLE

Victorian & Edwardian Conservatories AVAILABLE CALL NOW

www.wolverhamptonwindows.co.uk
07710 434223 01902 827879

Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...
lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB

Contest is tough for swim members

SENIOR swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club travelled to Nuneaton on at the weekend for the second round of the West Midlands National League.

In the premier league competition City of Derby and City of Coventry dominated the gala with only the minor placing up for grabs.

Halesowen were involved in a tight battle all evening and at the half-way mark were just holding fourth spot.

Despite some battling performances and a thrilling final men's relay Halesowen had to settle for fifth spot on the night.

Individual wins were hard to come by with double event winner James Cuthbert in the breaststroke and butterfly and other individual event winners Lily Merrell breaststroke; Josh Bradley and Mark Laing butterfly and Chloe Finch in the freestyle.

Richard Spoor was involved in the two stand out races against 50m breaststroke world record holder Adam Peaty and was agonisingly close in the individual medley. Final scores were Derby A 231, Coventry 188, City of Hereford 179, Stratford Sharks 160, Halesowen 152, Bilston 140.

Baggies game is changed

ALBION'S trip to Everton has been moved to Monday, January 19, so the match can be covered live by Sky Sports.

The Baggies away game, was scheduled for January 17, will now take place two days later kicking off at 8pm.

Villa's trip to Arsenal has also been moved back a day to Sunday, February 1 (1.30pm) as part of the latest batch of games which have been selected for live television coverage.

Current Premier League leaders' Chelsea's home game against fellow big-spenders Manchester City is another match which has been moved by Sky to 5.30pm on Saturday, January 31.

Forwards show determination for win

Bromsgrove 7 Old Halesonians 1sts 24

A rare break from League action at the weekend saw Hales travel to locals Bromsgrove for a North Midlands Cup quarter final.

Early driving mauls showed the intentions by the Hales forwards, particularly back row Owen Jones, Jay Martin and Nigel Burrows. Second rows Tom King and Guy Field did their bit with Field constantly putting Hales on the front foot.

The front row of Louis Padian, Callum Young and Rich Taylor started to dominate early. After seven minutes of constant

Rugby

pressure the Hales pack forced a Scrum five yards out from the Bromsgrove line through Greg Smith. Chris Hooper converted.

It was Hooper who put flying winger Luke Smith in for his first try.

On 33 minutes from a lineout the Hales pack drove over for a try from second row Field, Hooper converted.

Following an accidental collision, Hales' No. 8 Owen Jones was forced to leave the field with a suspected broken jaw. He was

replaced by Andy Fitzgerald. With only injury time left in the first half Hales switched off for a few minutes giving Bromsgrove the opportunity to score.

On 65 minutes, whilst the home side were pressurising a solid Hales defence Carl Robinson made one of his searing runs and fed winger Smith who took the ball over for his second try of the game. The remaining 15 minutes saw Hales reduced to 13 players following yellow cards for Martin and Young.

Despite this Bromsgrove could not breach the resolute Hales defence, the 7-24 score

stood at the final whistle. After the match team manager Simon Hussey said, "This was a very good performance in difficult conditions and a well-deserved result. Our thoughts go to Owen Jones who looks like he will be operated on for a fractured jaw, we wish him well."

Old Hales return to league action this Saturday at home again against Bromsgrove, kick off 2.15pm.

The Seconds did not play. The Thirds won 12-10 against Old Salts with tries from Glover and George Eccles.

The Fourths and Colts didn't play either.

A late strike knocks Tipton

Brocton 2 Tipton 1

A last-gasp Calum Rudd goal saw Brocton edge an entertaining Midland Premier clash.

It all began disastrously for the visitors with Shaun Griffiths's landing a seventh-minute booking-right on the edge of the penalty area.

With unerring accuracy, David Berks lashed home the fiercest of free-kicks.

As the half wore on Tipton came more into the picture. After sterling work by Sean Pugh near the corner flag, the ball was despatched to young Mark Ganderton in the 23rd minute who crossed for Dave Bate to tie up the score.

Paul Henley remained unfazed in the air for Tipton as their hosts worked ever harder to wrest control again. In the 41st minute, Kalam Evitts, crossed invitingly for Pugh to power a tremendous header barely off-target.

Brocton began the second half well before Tipton showed they were far from finished. Evitts setting up Steve Weaver, whose fine header shaved the top of the crossbar.

Tipton's hopes of prising a point were dashed well into added time when home substitute Rudd forced the ball home.

Old Hales Firsts take second loss in a row

South Nottingham 2 OHHC 1sts 1

OLD Halesonians Hockey Club Men's 1st XI fell to their second straight defeat, as they played away versus South Nottingham.

Hales took control of the game early on and defended impeccably from the frontline. Striker Graham Knight came close to breaking the deadlock touch, drifted under the keeper and just wide of the post.

Hockey

Hales did however open the scoring, when Paul Woodall found the net from a penalty corner. South Nottingham reacted well and soon equalised before the half time break.

The second half saw Hales continue their excellent defensive work, but up front they were unable to find another breakthrough.

Chances came for the visitors, but they were unable to convert to get a second goal. South Nottingham too had their chances, but some excellent saves from Man of the Match Steve Charlton kept the scores level.

Devastation hit Hales in the final two minutes however, when South Nottingham found the net to take all three points. It was an excellent performance for Hales but they fell short on the smallest of margins.

North Stafford 0 OHHC 3rds 2

Old Hales went into the game looking to get over last week's last minute defeat to Shrewsbury and travelled to face a North Stafford side who had won their last three games, and with Old Hales not taking a single point on their travels this season.

North Staffs had the ma-

jority of the possession in the first half but struggled to create chances. Old Hales took the lead through Alex Evans. His first effort was saved by the goalkeeper but he made no mistake with the rebound.

Old Hales defended exceptionally in the second half. North Staffs had a few chances from penalty corners but when they got through the defence, goalkeeper Ryan Middleton was not to be beaten.

The second Hales goal came when a scramble in the circle led to the ball falling to centre half Reise Thompson who slotted home. North Staffs offered little in reply and Old Hales saw out the game fairly comfortably.

Results: Droitwich 3 OHHC Ladies 1sts 1, goalscorer Rae Andrews; OHHC 2nds 3 Barford Tigers 4 goalscorers, Sam Kirby, Ash Greaves, Dion Patel; OHHC 4ths 3 Edgbaston 1 goalscorers, Steve Butler (2), Mark O'Connell; Edgbaston 3 OHHC 5ths 4, goalscorers, Fady Jadayel (2), Tom McGrath, Neil Hurst.



Old Halesowen's man of the match goalkeeper Steven Charlton whose side was beaten by one goal

Seb should be fit for Chelsea

ALBION hope defender Sebastian Pocognoli will be fit to face Chelsea next week despite the Belgian international suffering a minor hamstring tear.

The Baggies believe the 27-year-old will recover in time for the trip to Stamford Bridge on November 22 after withdrawing from international duty.

Pocognoli was at the club's training ground for treatment this week after being forced off at half-time in Sunday's 2-0 defeat to Newcastle.

Boss Alan Irvine said: "He's got a very slight tear in his hamstring. There's a little tear there but nothing that we're concerned about and nothing that should keep him out."

find new job

Search

www.staremploymentservices.co.uk

Associated with

Express & Star STAR

LET US HELP
YOU LAND
A NEW ROLE

Star Employment
services

SPORT

Forward push
Determination from
front row gets win
Page 35

Double defeat
Squad suffer their
second loss in a row
Page 35



Sports Desk 01902 319531

email: Chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Villa is handed £20,000 penalty

VILLA have been fined £20,000 by the Football Association for failing to control their players during their recent Premier League game against Tottenham.

Spurs have been fined the same amount after an FA statement said the clubs, who had admitted breaching FA rules, "failed to ensure their players conducted themselves in an orderly fashion".

A scuffle involving numerous players broke out during the game at Villa Park on November 2 after Villa striker Christian Benteke received a red card.

Benteke received a three-match ban for pushing Tottenham's Ryan Mason in the face – a punishment manager Paul Lambert labelled "excessive".

Lambert said at the time: "You cannot condone what he did, but it is not like he threw a Mike Tyson punch."

"My daughter can punch harder."

Villa were leading 1-0 with 24 minutes left, but Spurs hit back against the 10 men to win 2-1.

Meanwhile Villa defender Philippe Senderos has returned to Villa for treatment after suffering a calf injury training with Switzerland.

He misses matches with Lithuania and Poland.

Tivs hunting for strikers

TIVIDALE have targeted a twin striker boost to replace their departed forwards.

Boss Ian Long has served seven-day approaches for Gornal Athletic's Ryan Francis and Roland Agbor of Boldmere St Michaels after Jazz Luckie joined Stafford Rangers and Lewis Taylor-Boyce returned to Walsall Wood.

"I've been trying to get a couple of strikers in because that's where we're struggling," said Long.

The approaches expire on Thursday and we're looking to bring in two attacking players because we've lost a bit of pace with those two going."

Long said: "We've been decent in the last few games and we want to get some more football under our belts."

Long wants a cup run, adding: "We've got a decent-sized squad so we want to stay in the cups."

Whiley adds Masters to clean sweep of titles

JORDANNE WHILEY and her Japanese partner Yui Kamiji added one more major wheelchair tennis title to their sweep of all four Grand Slam crowns this season when they retained their women's title at the Wheelchair Doubles Masters in Mission Viejo, California.

Gordon Reid and Michael Jeremiasz of France were runners-up in the men's doubles as British players on the Tennis Foundation's Wheelchair Tennis Performance Programme finished the prestigious event with one title and three runners-up positions between them after Jamie Burdekin

Tennis

and Andy Lapthorne were also runners-up in the quad doubles. Whiley, from Halesowen, became the first British wheelchair tennis player in history to complete a calendar year Grand Slam in September this year when she and Kamiji added the US Open women's doubles title to their Australian Open, Roland Garros and Wimbledon titles.

The British No.1 and Kamiji are now the first non-Dutch pairing to win all four Grand Slams and the Doubles Masters title

in the same season. Whiley and Kamiji were in fine form against Louise Hunt and Germany's Katharina Kruger, earning a 6-2, 6-1 victory.

Whiley was the only player not to drop her serve in the first set and she went on to serve out the match in the second, with Kamiji hitting a winner on match point.

"After winning all four Grand Slams this year this was a big one for us, but we wanted to make sure we ended on a high and we want to replicate it next year," said Whiley. "We are absolutely thrilled and we will play together again at the Grand Slams

in 2015. We are still learning and improving, but for now we are both looking forward to playing at the Wheelchair Tennis Masters in a couple of weeks, where we can hopefully translate our doubles success into singles success."

After nine Brits qualified for the 2014 Doubles Masters, the event ended with Lucy Shuker and Germany's Sabine Ellerbrock finishing fourth in the women's doubles, while Antony Cottrell and the USA's Greg Hasterok were third in the quad doubles. Go to www.wheelchairtennismasters.com.

Stour in next step of cup

Nantwich Town 2 Stourbridge 3

STOURBRIDGE earned their place in the second round of the Doodson Sports Cup thanks to a brace of goals from George Bowerman at the Weaver Stadium in a win over Nantwich.

It took the Glassboys just two minutes to take the lead thanks to a miss-kick by goalkeeper David Stevenson which flew straight to Bowerman who fired home for his first.

With just nine minutes gone Gary Hackett's side were two ahead when Bowerman found Kristian Ramsey-Dixon who scored in the bottom corner.

The Dabbers pushed forward at the end of the first half and Aaron Burns was twice denied by clearances off the line.

However, after 49 minutes the hosts did pull one back when Mark Winslade picked the ball and rifled it into the top corner.

Less than a minute later the Dabbers when a long ball over the top was headed over his own goalkeeper by William Richards.

Stourbridge scored the winner after 81 minutes through Bowerman.

Wembley pitch won't be perfect

WEMBLEY managing director Roger Maslin says the national stadium's pitch will "not be of the very highest standard" when England host Slovenia on Saturday.

Maslin said: "While the pitch will not be of the very highest standard we want, it will still be a good playing surface."

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, November 13

YELTZ STUMBLE AT FIRST CUP HURDLE

Newcastle 3 Halesowen 0

A young Newcastle side progressed to the second round of the Doodson Sports Cup.

The sides three goals in the first half sent Halesowen crashing out at the first hurdle. Halesowen made several changes to the side with Oli Long and John Hill starting.

There was also Robert Thompson-Brown, Chris Lait and Sam Pearson regaining a starting 11 place.

Newcastle were gifted the lead on eight minutes as a calamitous mistake from Curtis Tilt and Sam Pearson allowed youngster Josh Gordon to slot the ball into an empty net from a couple of yards out.

Halesowen tried to regain control of the game, but this came to an abrupt end by the end of the first half, as two quick goals in the final three minutes of the half put the game out of reach.

Lifted

Castle doubled their lead on 43 minutes, as Josh Gordon latched on to a through ball and he lifted the ball over Pearson and watched it fly into the roof of the net.

Newcastle put the game out of reach on 45 minutes, as Tom Urwin hit a shot from an incredibly awkward angle but the ball curved back towards goal and Pearson couldn't deal with it.

Halesowen's best chances came in the second half, as Joel Kettle's header flew just over the bar, and Neil Mackenzie blasted the bar over as well.

But the Yeltz never got back into the game.

Football

Halesowen 2 Ramsbottom Utd 0

Improving Halesowen continued to climb up the league table after extending their unbeaten home run to nine games against high-flying Ramsbottom.

Ilysedon Christie soon pounced to give the Yeltz a 13th minute lead.

The goal came after intercepting a poor back-pass from Jon Robinson and his clinical finish left goalkeeper Grant Shenton well beaten.

Shenton then made a fine low save from Ben Haseley with the Yeltz looking strong and adapting well to the wet conditions which allowed them to keep a grip on the game.

There was scant evidence of Ramsbottom being the top goalscorers in the league although Jordan Hulme created Ramsbottom's best chance with a 20-yard shot after 40 minutes, only for home goalkeeper Matt Sargeant to produce a flying save and keep the opponents off the scoreboard.

Elliott Turner doubled the home lead three minutes before the interval from close range.

Awards recognise Black Country sporting heroes



Guest speaker Howard Webb, front, fifth from left, poses alongside recipients of awards from throughout the evening, including Sam Busher and 'Blind' Dave Heeley

SOME of the region's most dedicated and driven athletes and volunteers have been recognised for their sporting efforts at an inspirational ceremony.

Wolverhampton's Olympic medalist, gymnast Kristian Thomas, took the overall Sportsman of the Year title at the sixth annual Black Country Sport and Physical Activity awards, with 14 winners picking up awards.

The winners, announced at The Light House Media Centre in Wolverhampton, were picked from a shortlist of 39 athletes, coaches and sports clubs drawn from over 100 nominations.

Andy Webb, BeActive Black Country partnership director, said: "We all know the Black Country has a proud sporting heritage, with many world and Olympic medallists coming from the area."

"Many of these people, such as Denise Lewis or even Kristian Thomas, started out in clubs around here that have been recognised all over the world as great sporting institutions."

"We will never forget our heritage but now we are seeing the start of a new era we can all be tremendously proud of. We are now not just producing world-class athletes but world-leading athletes."





www.bandwbilliards.co.uk



B&W Billiards

Powke Lane
Cradley Heath B64 5QR
01384 638 191

*Finest Handmade Cues,
Cases and Accessories*